

# Bike Policy

Revised October 2017

## Policy

Students travelling to and from school, as well as those at school, need to feel and be safe. The Department of Education & Training and NSW Roads & Traffic Authority recommend that children under 10 years of age **DO NOT** ride bicycles to and from school unless accompanied by an adult.

Barnier Public School **does NOT** permit children under the age of 10 to ride their bike to school unaccompanied by an adult.

Skateboards, scooters, rip sticks, roller blades and 'Heelies' (shoes with wheels) are **not permitted** at Barnier Public School under any circumstances, unless directed by teachers.

- Students and parents **must complete** and return the permission note which indicates that they agree with the school policy.
- Children must correctly wear a Standards Australia approved bicycle helmet at all times when in control of a bicycle.
- All RTA road rules concerning bicycles are to be followed. This includes the pedestrians' right of way on footpaths. The bell should be used as a warning when approaching pedestrians.
- Entry and exit to Barnier Public School are via the Aylward Rd and Farnham Rd gates. This allows for safe entrance and exit of both cyclists and pedestrians.
- Bicycles ridden to school must be in good, safe working order and must be fitted with a bell. One child per bicycle only (no doubling).
- Children are to dismount before entering the school and walk their bicycles whilst in the school grounds.
- Bicycles are to be stored in the bike rack. If possible bicycles should be locked with a chain and padlock supplied by the bicycle owner. Helmets may be chained to their bicycles or secured in the classroom after consultation with their teacher.
- Parents will be notified if children do not adhere to the School's Bicycle Policy. Students may be refused entry with their bicycles to the school grounds if they disobey the rules.
- No riding of bicycles is permitted in school grounds during or after school hours.
- No responsibility will be taken by the school for damage or theft of the bicycle or safety equipment.

## Bicycle and Helmet Safety Checklist

Feature	What are You Checking For	How Does Your Bicycle Rate?
Tyres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• firm tyres</li> <li>• tread not worn and no canvas showing</li> <li>• no bulges or cuts</li> </ul>	
Bell/Horn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sounds clearly and loudly</li> </ul>	
Pedals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rotate freely when spun</li> <li>• rubber not showing signs of wear</li> </ul>	
Lights and Reflectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• secure, clean and shine brightly</li> </ul>	
Brakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• blocks not worn down when brakes applied</li> <li>• bike wheel does not rotate when brakes are applied</li> </ul>	
Chain/ Gears	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• does not move more than 2.5 cm when lifted</li> <li>• is well oiled</li> </ul>	
Helmet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• helmet shell and lining are not damaged</li> <li>• helmet straps, buckles are not damaged</li> <li>• helmet sits on top of the head (two fingers width between eyebrows and helmet edge) and can be firmly buckled under the chin</li> </ul>	
Size of Bike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• correct size for rider ( see information below)</li> </ul>	

### What is the right size of bicycle?

The right size of bicycle:

- Has controls within reach
- Is comfortable for the rider
- Has a level seat
- The rider's feet should just touch the ground when the rider is sitting on the seat
- Handlebars should allow for the arms to be slightly bent as the body leans forward
- The bicycle is the right size if the rider can straddle the crossbar with both feet flat on the ground, otherwise the bicycle is too big and therefore, unsafe. There should be about 3 cm between the bicycle and the rider's crutch for a medium or lightweight bicycle. For a BMX or mountain bike there should be a 10cm gap. If there is no crossbar, make the test from where the crossbar would be.
- Further information about riding safely to school can be found at <https://cms.det.nsw.edu.au/road-safety-education/safe-student-travel/bikes>

# Barnier Public School

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## Child and Guardian Bicycle User's Permission Note

- I have read and understand the bicycle information provided – Barnier Public School Bicycle Policy.
- My parent/carer has read the bicycle information provided to me.
- I understand that it is a joint responsibility between my parents and I to keep the bike well maintained with all component parts working correctly.
- I will wear my Standards Australia approved helmet correctly when riding a bicycle to and from school.
- I will walk my bike to and from the school gate and at all times whilst on the school grounds.
- I understand that I bring my bicycle to school at my own risk.
- I will not lend my bike to another student when travelling to and from school.
- I will not carry any passengers on my bike.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (student)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/carer) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) to ride his/her bicycle to and from school.
- My child is over the age of 10. \_\_\_\_\_ (Date of birth)
- I have read and understand the bicycle information provided.
- I have read and explained the bicycle information provided to my child.
- I have reviewed the *Guide to Bicycle Maintenance* to check my child's bicycle for roadworthiness and understand that it is my responsibility to keep the bike well maintained with all component parts working correctly.
- My child will correctly wear a Standards Australia approved helmet when riding a bicycle to and from school.
- I understand that bicycles are brought to school at the owner's and user's risk.
- I have discussed with my child the safest route when riding to school. I am aware that my child riding his/her bicycle in the rain or on wet roads is unsafe and it is advisable not to ride in such conditions.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/carer)

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return the signed permission note to the school*