



VICTORIA POLICE

**Carrum Downs Police Station
42 Ballarto Road, Frankston North VIC 3200
(03) 8770 4100**

Dear parents,

I have noticed a lot of E-bikes/scooters being ridden by school age children around our area. These devices are being ridden both on the road as well as footpaths, with many riders not wearing helmets or protective gear. E-bike/scooter related injuries have caused an increase in the number of Emergency Room visits, a large proportion of these are school aged children presenting with injuries such as broken bones, spinal injuries and serious head injuries resulting in ABIs (acquired brain injuries).

Children have been shown to take greater risks as they are still growing and have not achieved the brain development required to always make good decisions.

In 2025 and 2026 there has been a significant increase in Emergency Department admissions due to E-bike/scooter incidents. These stem from riders not wearing the appropriate safety protection, as well as misuse of illegal or modified bikes.

E-bikes/scooters are high powered, heavy transportation devices that require sensible decision making to avoid risk of injury to themselves and those around them in public. The Victorian Government creates legislation to govern the safe use of these devices and Victoria Police are responsible for enforcing the laws. You may not be aware of these laws, so I have put some of them below. The brackets contain some of the contributing factors as to why these laws were created.

E-scooter riders must:

- be at least 16 years old. (Under 16 yr olds not developed enough to make safe choices)
- not ride with a second person. (The brakes are not designed for this)
- not ride on the footpath. (Danger to pedestrians)
- wear an approved bicycle helmet. (High chance of head strike with footpath in collision)
- not travel faster than 20 km/h. (The faster they go the more dangerous they become)
- not travel on roads signposted above 60km/h. (High speed vehicles present a large risk)
- not use mobile phones while riding. (This is a massive distraction)

The above offences may attract fines of up to \$611.

Some of the above laws are also relevant for E-bikes. EPACS (electric pedal-assisted cycles) are commonly used by food delivery riders and are legal. The 'Surren' branded style E-bikes are not pedal assisted and solely rely on battery power. These E-bikes often don't come with pedals, just a throttle control. They are classified as a motorcycle and are illegal devices.

I'm asking parents to please consider the safety of their children when they are considering purchasing one of these devices for them and please reconsider. If your child is 16 or over and has an E-bike/scooter, please have a discussion with them about the importance of riding on the road, wearing a helmet and being safe.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.