

Friday, 19 January 2024

Dear Principal,

RE: Road safety around schools

As we prepare for the return of students for the 2024 school year, I wanted to raise the important matter of **Road safety around schools** with you and with your school community.

With the return of school activities, particularly during the back-to-school period when traffic congestion tends to increase, it is important to remind the school community about the importance of following road safety practices around schools, particularly at student pick up and drop off areas.

The Road Safety Road Rules 2017 (the Road Rules) are there to protect students and pedestrians and play a vital role in preventing accidents and minimising injuries. Council takes this very seriously and our Local Laws Officers regularly patrol the roads around schools and school crossings, issuing Parking Infringement Notices to drivers of vehicles observed breaching the Road Rules. Our officers undertake a combination of highly visible patrols and vehicle patrols using cameras.

Another key aspect of road safety is the presence of School Crossing Supervisors. The school crossing supervisors play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of our students whilst crossing busy roads. Their presence not only provides a sense of security and community safety, but also serves as a reminder to drivers to exercise caution when driving nearby. We ask all members of the school community who use School Crossings to please follow all instructions and signals from the Supervisor.

We wish to reiterate that ensuring the safety of children and pedestrians around schools is paramount, and we ask that the school community respect the work of the School Crossing Supervisors and Local Laws Officers as they fulfil this duty.

Council has developed educational brochures, 'Safe to school' and 'Safety around schools', which I have attached with this correspondence. I kindly request your assistance in disseminating this information to the school community. By raising awareness and providing guidance on safe practices, we can collectively work towards creating a safer environment for students and the broader school community.

By working together, Maroondah City Council and the school community can improve the road safety of students and their families. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact the Local Laws Team on 1300 88 22 33.

Yours sincerely,

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Martyn Furlong Program Lead Local Laws