



Asset Services Information Sheet 24

TravelSmart School Travel Plans

Introduction

To gain a greater understanding of the options to manage parent/guardian parking and traffic issues around your school, the Town of Bassendean has produced a checklist ("The Proactive School's Checklist") to accompany the information below.

Travel Survey

Collecting data on how your students currently travel is an essential first step in any school's Travel Plan and will help each school start the process of changing the parent/guardian vehicle traffic activities.

Mapping the school catchment

Mapping where your students live is another essential piece of data collection to undertake before developing a School Travel Plan. The information collected will help direct infrastructure upgrades, and can be used to initiate programs such as the Walking School Bus and Safe Routes to School.

TravelSmart to school

TravelSmart to School is an extremely popular leadership development program that allows Year 6 and 7 students to develop and run their own TravelSmart campaign at school. The students attend a 2 day sustainability workshop before embarking on their TravelSmart campaign, and are responsible for collecting data to demonstrate the success of the workshop.

Kiss and Ride

A "Kiss and Ride" is a drop-off / pick-up bay which can help to reduce the demand for parking bays at school. Parents enter the Kiss and Ride, collect or drop off their children, and drive off again. Kiss and Ride zones keep the traffic flowing, and allow a large number of parents to use the bay in a short period of time. Parking is not allowed in the Kiss and Ride, and parents must remain in their vehicle with the engine running - ready for a quick departure - at all times.

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Town of Bassendean Information Sheet
Ways to reduce waste at Christmas

Date 4/01/2018

Parking Wardens

Parking Wardens are volunteer parents who supervise the operation of the Kiss and Ride to ensure that it is used properly. Parents receive training from the Town of Bassendean and can request support from our Rangers if inappropriate parking behaviour is observed.

Bike Ed

The WA Police Service is no longer able to provide bicycle education to primary schools. However, a number of options do still exist for schools that would like to teach practical riding skills to their students. These include:

- Private service providers who operate bicycle safety courses. Delivery can be undertaken during class time or as an after-school activity.
- Teachers who are trained in Bike Ed can still deliver the program.
- Schools can set up riding skills courses in their playground for students to use during recess. Whilst not as comprehensive as a professionally delivered bicycle education course, it will still help to improve students cycling competency.
- A number of YMCA's, PCYC's and local councils offer vacation courses in cycling skills that interested families can enrol in.

Walk to School / Cycle to School Days

You can hold a Walk or Cycle to School Day on any day that you would like - it's a great way to promote healthy and active-travel to school.

However, a number of state, national and international events are organised each year to encourage walking and cycling, so why not take part and join hundreds - if not thousands - of other schools in encouraging their students to make healthy and active transport choices.

- Cycle to School Day is run in March each year as part of Western Australia's Bike Week.
- National Walk Safely to School Day is run early in Term 2 each year and is organised by the Pedestrian Council of Australia.
- Western Australia's *Walk There Instead* Walk to School Day is run in early November as part of Walk Week.
- International Walk to School Day is held on the 24th October. Or for those looking for a little more challenge, why not take part in the International Walk to School Month!
- World Car Free Day is held on September 22nd each year.

Why not make your event even more memorable by running additional activities for the students to take part in. Ideas include:

- organising a bike engraving session;
- setting up a Bike Rodeo (skills circuit);
- running a Best Dressed Bike competition;
- going to a walk or ride around the local area;
- walking or cycling to a local park for your morning tea;
- offering free-dress for participating students;
- running a class / house / faction competition;
- expanding your event to include skating and scooting too!, and
- setting up Park and Walk zones so families who live too far to walk or ride the whole way can at least walk part of the way to school.

Challenges and Choices

A curriculum resource for teachers to use in the classroom, Challenges and Choices teaches children about road safety for both pedestrians and cyclists. A series of take-home worksheets encourages parents to get involved and help their children develop skills to compliment the theory that they learn in the classroom. This parent/ guardian program will improve the safety of their children when using the road.

Safe Routes to School

The Safe Routes to School program helps older children walk to school safely. To initiate this program, the School's P&C can work with the Town to identify major routes to and from school which are suitable for children. This information is then submitted to the Town for funding consideration to mark existing pedestrian paths with blue feet to identify the school walking route.

This Town of Bassendean's Path Network program supports pedestrian walking activity by improving the local infrastructure around the school - for example by installing pavements and ramps for bikes and pram ramps - to make the chosen routes as safe as possible.

Walking School Bus

A Walking School Bus is a walking group run by parents that travels to school collecting children on the way. Like a normal bus, it has a fixed route and a timetable, so families know where and when they can catch it.

Walking School Buses usually run one or two mornings each week. The routes are about 1 kilometre long and take about 20 minutes to walk. Walking School Buses are really popular because:

- parents know their children are safe because they are supervised by adults as they walk;
- parents take it in turns to run the Bus, and so get a few mornings off from 'doing the school run' on the days that other parents are running the Bus - great for busy families; and
- children love taking part.

Traffic Management Plan

A School Traffic Management Plan is an important tool for all schools, and a complementary document to your School Travel Plan. The travel plan addresses all forms of transport, particularly how to increase healthy and active forms of travel. The Traffic Management Plan looks at how the school manages vehicles of parents and guardians who attend the school to drop off or collect their children.

Items that would typically appear in a Traffic Management plan would be:

- preferred traffic flow around the school (one way or 2 way?);
- location of long term and short term parking bays - If deemed necessary the Town of Bassendean can relocate or re-sign bays;
- location and management of Kiss and Rides;
- out of bounds areas (such as staff car parks, areas where cars could present some danger for students);
- how to address inappropriate parking by parents; and
- other issues specific to your school.

'Behind the Bike Shed' newsletter

A monthly email newsletter from the Ride2School Team in Victoria highlights the fantastic walking and cycling achievements of many other schools around Australia.

It is possible for schools to view this information on their website, use their ideas and implement them at your school. To subscribe refer to <https://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/general/programs/362/>

Bike parking

Schools in Victoria have found that simply by providing a secure and covered bike shed for students, you can significantly increase the number of students who ride to school.

Bike sheds can double as rain water collectors, support structures for solar panels, or trellis for fruit trees and vines to grow against. Building a bike shed doesn't cost as much as you may think, and on occasions the State Government may have grants available to assist in covering the costs.

