Dear Parent/Carer

Wheeled Device Safety at Mudgee Public School

What does Transport for NSW say?
- children under 10 years of age should be actively supervised by an adult when riding a wheeled device.
- all children under 12 years of age should ride in a safe place off the road, such as a footpath or bicycle path, and away from vehicles and driveways.
- any person over 12 years of age cannot ride on footpaths, unless they are supervising a cyclist who is under 12 years of age. It is recommended children cycle away from busy roads.

Parents and carers are responsible for:
- how your child travels to and from school.
- maintaining your child's bicycle. Bicycles must be in a good, safe working order and by law must be fitted with a working brake and a bell.
- ensuring your child correctly wears an Australian Standards approved helmet every time they ride a bicycle.
- teaching your child the bicycle road rules. These are outlined in Transport for NSW *Information for parents and carers about safety on wheels – The law and safety advice for bicycles, foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades* brochure.
- completing the *Parent and carer agreement*, issued by our school. This is to be returned to the principal prior to the first time your child rides to school.

Students who ride bicycles to school are responsible for:
- completing a *Bicycle Rider's Agreement* issued by our school. This is to be returned to the principal prior to the first time your child rides to school.
- dismounting before entering the school grounds.
- using the school bicycle entry and exit points via Pindari Road pedestrian entrance closest to the staff carpark.
- walking bicycles on school grounds.
- storing the bicycle in the bicycle rack. Bicycles may be locked with a chain and padlock supplied by the bicycle owner. Bicycles and helmets are brought and stored at school at the owner's risk.
- walking bicycles past the pedestrian entrance in the afternoon.

Parents and carers will be notified if their child does not follow the school's bicycle safety guideline.

A guide to bicycle maintenance: Eight point safety check		
Feature	**What are you checking for?**	**Maintained**
Bell or horn	• rings or sounds clearly and loudly	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing
Brakes	• bike wheel does not rotate when brakes are applied	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing
Brakes pads	• pads are not worn down	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing
Chain	• should be well oiled and not sag	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing
Front white reflector	• is secure and clean	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing
Red rear reflector	• is secure and clean	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing
Tyres	• firm tyres • tread not worn and no canvas showing • no bulges or cuts	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing
Yellow wheel and pedal reflectors	• are secure and clean	❒ Yes ❒ Needs fixing

Source: Adapted from *Safety Town* Stage 3, Transport for NSW 2014

What is the right size of bicycle?
The right sized bicycle:
- is comfortable for the rider
- allows for the arms to be slightly bent as the body leans slightly forward holding the handlebars
- has controls within reach
- allows the rider's feet to just touch the ground when the rider is sitting on the seat
- allows the rider to straddle the crossbar with both feet flat on the ground. There should be about 3 cm between the bicycle and the rider's crutch for a light or medium weight road bicycle. For a BMX or mountain bike there should be a 10 cm gap. If there is no crossbar, make the test from where the crossbar would be.
- has a level seat

If not, the bicycle is either too small or too big and is unsafe.

What is required by law?

A bicycle must be fitted with a working horn or bell and at least one working brake.

A guide to correctly fitting a helmet

Always wear a helmet when you ride

Can you place just two fingers between your eyebrows and your helmet?

Can you fit just two fingers between the helmet strap and your chin?

Do the straps join in a 'V' just below your ears?

Has an adult checked your helmet?

NSW Centre for Road Safety, Transport for NSW: *Information for parents and carers about safety on wheels:The law and safety advice for bicycles, foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades*