



# SAFE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN

February 2018



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## Introduction

The journey to and from West Rolleston Primary School is a key part of the day for our learners and our community.

The establishment of a School Safe Travel Management Plan ensures that every stage of the journey to and from school is considered to improve safety. The aims of this Travel Management Plan are to ensure that:

- West Rolleston Primary School learners are as safe as possible when walking, cycling, or scootering to and from school
- West Rolleston Primary School learners are not at risk from vehicle traffic around school entrances
- Travel to and from School is considered as part of West Rolleston Primary School's Strategic Plan

The Safe Travel Management Plan for West Rolleston Primary School has eight actions:

1. Establish Kiss and Drop parking zones, identify Safe Haven parking zone on Burnham School Road and removal of parking space immediately located next to kea crossing on Dunns Crossing Road.
2. Advocate to council to reduce speed limits around West Rolleston Primary School
3. Integration of road safety and active transport into the curriculum for learners at West Rolleston Primary School. This will include an Annual Road Safety Week and footpath training.
4. Recommendation to council for safe road crossings surrounding West Rolleston Primary School.
5. Establishment of Walking Bus routes between West Rolleston Primary School and the school community
6. Long term school property plan to be reviewed to support and encourage the use of bikes as transport to and from school with consideration for increased bike/scooter storage and school bike tracks.
7. Increased road safety visibility in school community by way of signage and road markings
8. West Rolleston Primary School Board of Trustees will undertake an Annual Review of Safe Travel Management policy and update this plan accordingly

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## Background

The main sources of information used to prepare this Travel Management Plan included:

**A survey of parents:** this provided a rich source of information about parent concerns as well as useful ideas for improving safety

**Traffic counts at school entrances:** these counts will be particularly useful for ongoing monitoring of vehicle numbers

**Consultation with a Travel Plan Working Group:** this group included:

- Sylvia Fidow (Principal of West Rolleston Primary School),
- Rob Hunt (parent and member of West Rolleston Primary School Board of Trustees),
- Leona Whittington (teacher and parent)
- Sharryn Butler (parent)
- Hayley McClure (parent)
- Fay Merry (parent)
- Steph Hautler (Selwyn District Council, School Road Safety Coordinator)

The group met twice, including to discuss the results of the parent survey. The group were also provided draft versions of the plan for comment.

West Rolleston Primary School learners played an important role too. Surveys and traffic counts were created and carried out by a keen team of Year 7 and 8 learners.

The West Rolleston Primary School Board of Trustees wishes to thank everyone that has contributed to the development of this plan.

## About West Rolleston Primary School and its immediate surroundings

West Rolleston Primary School is located on the corner of Dunns Crossing Road and Burnham School Road in Rolleston, Canterbury. The school opened in 2016 with 77 children and currently has a forecast learner population of 392 for 2018. The school has

existing capacity for 750 children with the ability for expansion to accommodate additional growth if required,

**Map of West Rolleston Primary School - Entry and Exit from West Rolleston Primary School**





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1. **Staff Car Park Entry and Exit.** Learners are discouraged to use this Entry and Exit, however due to the proximity directly opposite the Stonebrook footpath, some learners and parents have been identified using this Entry and Exit.
  2. **Kea Crossing Dunns Crossing Road.** This is the primary crossing point for learners and the parent community that walk, bike or scoot to West Rolleston School. Currently this is the only crossing with manned support before and after school. Beyond the kea crossing is a gated entrance to West Rolleston Primary School.
  3. **Parents and Bus Parking Exit.** This Exit is directly opposite Blossoms Educare and is congested at drop off and pick off. Visibility can be limited due to surrounding parking and there is also increased pedestrian risk due to Parent and Learners crossing between WRPS and Blossoms. Based on the school gate location this is the primary student traffic area.
  4. **Parents and Bus Parking Entrance.** This Car park entrance is the only way to enter WRPS parents car parking. It is immediately adjacent to the speed restriction sign reducing traffic speed on Burnham School Road from 100kmph to 50kmph. Visibility can be limited due to surrounding parking. There are also occasional issues with vehicles looking to exit from this entrance.
  5. **Bike and Scooter Stands.** These stands were relocated in late 2017 and allow for greater connection to the kea crossing on Dunns Crossing Road and access to the main school gate. Access is off Dunns Crossing Road through a child safe gate. Future expansion of the area will double the size of scooter and bike stands and bring the area adjacent to Burnham School Road. Currently there is no access through the school fence from Burnham School Road.

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## Travel Safety Issues at West Rolleston Primary School



### Travelling to and from school by foot, scooter or cycle

Parents have raised a number of safety issues about the journey to and from school including:

- Difficulty crossing Burnham School Road between West Rolleston Primary School and Blossoms Educare
- Visibility on Dunns Crossing Road Kea Crossing due to parking space immediately located next to this crossing
- Lack of signage around school travel routes to indicate children may be present
- Need to increase the Road and Footpath Training of West Rolleston Primary School learners

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## Difficulty crossing Burnham School Road between WRPS and Blossums

Parents have raised concerns about crossing Burnham School Road between the School and the adjacent early child care facility due to the lack of crossing. Burnham School Road has high traffic volumes during drop off and pick up times due to the location of the school car park and often has limited visibility during this time. The location of the car park exit adjacent to this crossing adds further risks.

### Proposed response

The School recognises that this is a challenging crossing due to multiple factors. While the school sympathises with the need for parents to locate car parks nearby the school, parking in some areas is reducing visibility and we will be working with Selwyn Council Road Safety team to review safe parking areas. This will result in an increase to the areas designated as “No Parking” around the school and will also include the establishment of a Safe Haven parking area.

Safe Haven parking areas are designed to encourage our community to park in a location that can be accessed directly by our learners. Establishing the Safe Haven parking area on Burnham School Road (between Dunns Crossing Road and Brookside Road) ensures our learners can safely access this point using the existing supervised Kea crossing .

The School is also making submissions to the council to reduce speed limits around the School. This includes seeking a 40 kmph zone directly around the School and extending the 50 kmph zone on Burnham School Road. The School will also advocate to Council for a traffic island installed by the Council on Burnham School Road between the School and Blossoms.

In response to the issue, the following actions will be taken:

1. Increase in “No Parking” areas on Burnham School Road.
2. Establishment of Safe Haven parking area on Burnham School Road (from Dunns Crossing Road to Brookside Drive).
3. Engage with Selwyn District Council to review surrounding speed limits and request for increased road signage to indicate a residential area.
4. Engage with Selwyn District Council to build a traffic island between Blossoms Educare and West Rolleston Primary School.

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## Visibility on Dunns Crossing Road Kea Crossing due to parking space immediately located next to this crossing

Parents, Learners and Staff have identified that the Kea crossing on Dunns Crossing Road has limited visibility due to the parking space adjacent to the crossing. Kea crossings provide children with a safe place to cross the road. They are installed around schools so school patrols can control traffic and safely guide children across the street.

Due to the height of parked vehicles the school patrol is not able to clearly view approaching traffic.

### Proposed response

In order to introduce Kiss and Drop Parking, the parking on the School side of Dunns Crossing Road is to be reduced. Parking from the corner of Dunns Crossing Road and Burnham School Road to the pylons opposite the School office will become Kiss and Drop parking. When this is introduced it is proposed that the car park reducing visibility will be removed.

In response to the issue, the following actions will be taken:

1. Removal of car park adjacent to Kea Crossing on Dunns Crossing Road.





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## **Lack of signage around school travel routes to indicate children may be present**

Feedback from the community survey indicated concern that there was limited signage indicating children were using surrounding footpaths and playgrounds before and after school.

Granite Drive playground in Stonebrook was identified as an area of concern due to the volume of children that use this facility after school and cross the road at this point.

Currently there is Road Signs indicating School approaching on Dunns Crossing Road (from SH1) and on Burnham School Road (from Burnham). There is currently no sign on Dunns Crossing Road (from Brookside Park) and this has been identified as a concern.

### Proposed response

The School will work with Selwyn District Council to increase the signage in these areas. It will seek a "School" road sign on Dunns Crossing Road near to Brookside Park and it will also seek a "Children" road sign around the Granite Drive playground in Stonebrook.

West Rolleston Primary School will work with the Council to get information flyers prepared for the community on safe ways to travel to school and include guides on safe places to cross on roads used by the school community.

In response to the issue, the following actions will be taken:

1. Engage Selwyn Council to install new road signs indicating to drivers that School and Children may be nearby.
2. Launch West Rolleston Primary School Safe Travel information brochure to community.

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### **Need to increase the Road and Footpath Training of West Rolleston Primary School learners.**

Feedback from the community survey outlined concerns around the general road safety demonstrated by learners when travelling to and from West Rolleston Primary School. This included learners travelling by foot, bike and scooter.

Responses requested increased awareness and training for learners.

#### Proposed response

The School agrees that increased training for learners will help reduce risks and may also encourage more parents to feel comfortable that their children can travel safely on their journey to and from school.

In order to achieve this the school will hold an Annual Road Safety Awareness Week that will build knowledge and road safety confidence. This will also have a focus on encouraging active transport.

The School will also work with Selwyn Council and the Police to develop footpath safety training. Education flyers will also be prepared for the community that has general road safety information and recommendations on safe road crossing spots.

The School will also work with the community to explore the establishment of a Walking Bus to help provide a safe way for children to walk to school. Encouraging groups of children to travel together not only encourages active transport options to school, but also increases visibility of learners while on the journey to and from school.



In response to the issue, the following actions will be taken:

1. Establish an Annual Road Safety Awareness Week that connects student learning to wider curriculum.
2. Work with Selwyn District Council and Police to develop footpath training.
3. Work with the parent community to establish one or more Walking Bus routes.
4. Continue to encourage children to wear safety vests while walking, scooting and cycling to and from school.

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## Travelling to and from school by vehicle

Community feedback identified problems with vehicles around the school. The speed of travelling vehicles was the primary concern while a large amount of surveys gave feedback on the car parking. The main areas of review were:

- Speed of Traffic surrounding the School
- Car Parking and Kiss and Go parks nearby the school
- Encouraging Drivers to follow the Road Code



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## Speed of Traffic surrounding the School

Speed of cars, trucks and other vehicles travelling around the School was a major concern for our community. In particular the speed of vehicles approaching the car park entrance on Burnham School Road was identified as a concern.

### Proposed response

Reducing vehicle speed around the School is a major priority for the School and it will continue to advocate to Council. Submissions made to Council include a recommendation of a reduced 40 kmph zone directly around the School and extending the 50 kmph zone on Dunns Crossing Road (from current point on Dunns Crossing Road to junction with SH1) and the 50 kmph zone on Burnham School Road (beyond the car park entrance).

Increased signage has also been sought to help build driver awareness to the School and the learners.

In response to the issue, the following actions will be taken:

1. Advocate to Selwyn District Council for reduced speed limits on surrounding roads and increased safety signage to alert drivers to risks.



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## **Car Parking and Kiss and Go parks nearby the school**

Feedback from the community was broad ranging on the car park and has identified a number of areas of concerns.

The entry and exit of the car park on Burnham School Road identified issues with vehicles going the wrong way through these, causing congestion and/or safety issues for learners.

Learners crossing the car park through parked vehicles was a concern. Many learners and the community are not using the zebra crossings in the car park and in turn putting themselves at risk.

The amount of car parking was identified by some parents as a concern. Some parents wanted more parking available. Parking around the School was also causing visibility issues.

### Proposed response

Car parking will always be a contentious issue and getting the balance right between safety priorities and meeting parent demand will be an ongoing challenge. The primary recommendation on this is to encourage more learners to travel to and from school using active transport, but the School recognises this will not work for all families and can be weather dependent.

The signage in the main car park will be improved to ensure the one way traffic system is encouraged and followed by all drivers. Positive encouragement and reward of learners using the zebra crossings will be introduced. Road safety training will also support this.

In order to support the increasing demand for car parking, two solutions will be introduced. Firstly, kiss and go parking will be established on Dunns Crossing Road adjacent to the School. Further, eight car parks in the Burnham School car park will be converted to kiss and go. These will be two minute parking areas that encourage quick pick up or drop off of learners. The kiss and go areas will run 8.30am to 9.00am and 2.45pm to 3.15pm.

Secondly, the community will be provided with education on safe haven parking areas as outlined earlier in the plan.

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In response to the issue, the following actions will be taken:

1. Introduction of Kiss and Go parking areas on Dunns Crossing Road and inside the main School car park.
2. Increase in “No Parking” areas on Burnham School Road.
3. Establishment of Safe Haven parking area on Burnham School Road (from Dunns Crossing Road to Brookside Drive).
4. Increase car park signage to encourage use of one way system.
5. Increase in safe travel awareness of learners to encourage use of car park zebra crossings.

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## Encouraging Drivers to follow the Road Code

Feedback from the community identified general road code issues around the School. These included:

- The speed of vehicles travelling to and from School,
- vehicles not stopping at the Stop sign located at the junction between Burnham School Road and Dunns Crossing Road,
- Drivers and vehicle passengers not using safety belts

### Proposed response

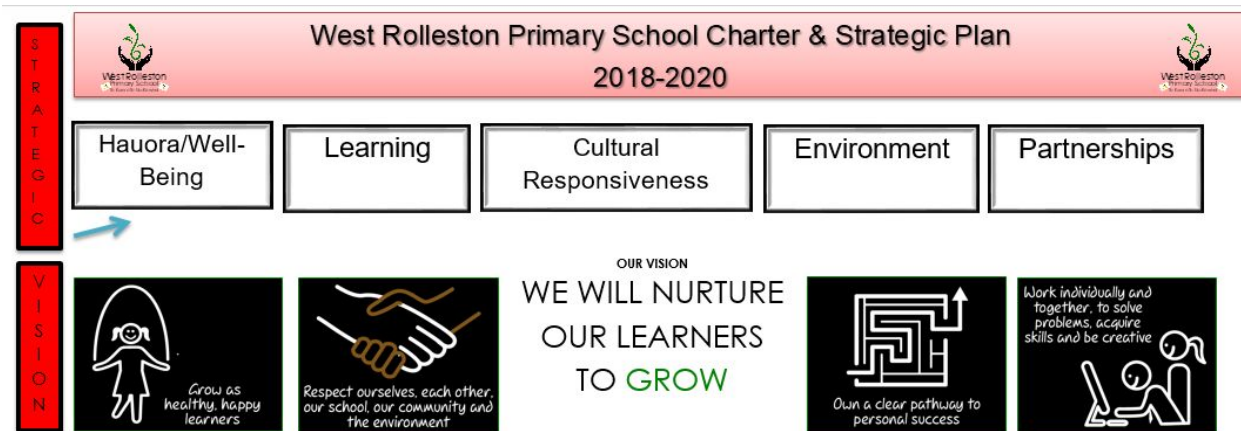
While it is not the School's responsibility to enforce use of the Road Code, it strongly advocates to the community for the safety of our learners that all expectations are followed.

The School will work with the Selwyn District Council and Police to ensure a safe community.

In response to the issue, the following actions will be taken:

1. Periodic review between School and Community partners to ensure a safe environment for our learners is upheld.
2. Safe travel information flyer to be prepared and made available for our community.

## Connection to School Strategic Plan



The West Rolleston Primary School Safe Travel Management Plan has been reviewed alongside the School's strategic plan.

- **Hauora** - Encouraging safe active transport is a key component of the plan. By encouraging more children to safely walk, cycle or scooter on their journey to and from school will improve wellbeing and grow healthy learners.
- **Learning** - Connecting the Safe Travel Management Plan to the curriculum and holding an Annual Road Safety Week will support students in acquiring new skills and respecting themselves and the environment that they travel to and from school.
- **Environment** - The Safe Travel Management Plan encourages the School's goal of reducing our environmental footprint and encouraging our learners to respect and appreciate their place on the planet . By providing road safety training and encouraging active transport the volume of children travelling to and from School using vehicles should reduce.
- **Partnerships** - A successful Safe Travel Management Plan will be formed through partnerships between the School, our Community, Selwyn District Council, the Police among others. While travelling to and from School our learners continue to represent West Rolleston Primary School and the plan encourages responsible behaviour.