

SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM

The City of Charles Sturt has implemented a comprehensive traffic management and parking scheme in the streets surrounding your child's school to help make it a safe place. Going against the road rules places not only your child's life at risk, but those of others. Tragedies can occur if care is not taken to abide by these rules.



School Safety

Due to the chaotic nature of traffic around schools at peak times, streets can be an extremely dangerous place for children.

Young children have not yet fully developed their cognitive abilities and therefore their perception, judgement and awareness of potentially dangerous situations is not adequately developed to enable them to cope with the road environment.

Children are not easily visible and often act impulsively, which means if you are driving around a school,

you must follow the road rules, drive to the conditions and take special care, to ensure we keep our children safe.

The City of Charles Sturt recognises the need to ensure the safety and convenience of pedestrians, bike riders and motorists. To this end we have installed traffic and parking controls around schools. These controls are designed to ensure the safety of the school students and parents.

The minority of motorists who choose to ignore their traffic and parking responsibilities endanger the safety of the rest of the community. Council Officers do conduct regular patrols around schools and may issue expiation notices to vehicles illegally parked.

Remember that children copy grown-ups – encourage good road sense by watching them closely and leading by example.

Common Parking Restrictions

Below are some explanations of signs that are placed around schools to ensure that all of the children stay safe.



No Parking Signs

You may use this area for Drop off and pick up only, for a maximum of 2 minutes. You must not queue or wait here. The driver must remain with the vehicle.

Kiss and Drop Zones are generally near the school gates and are designated by 'No Parking' signs.

Here are some key reminders when entering a Kiss and Drop:

- Follow the rules of 'No Parking' signs
- Be mindful of others who are also dropping off their children
- Keep an eye out for children crossing the road when exiting the Kiss and Drop zone



No Stopping Signs/ Yellow Lines

Both No Stopping Signs and Yellow Lines mean the same thing. There might be one or the other or both.

Drivers must not stop

on a length of road to which this restriction applies, even if you are stopping for a short period to pick up a child. Stopping here may cause a traffic hazard as well as congestion.

You cannot stop near a school crossing, always follow the signs and yellow lines.



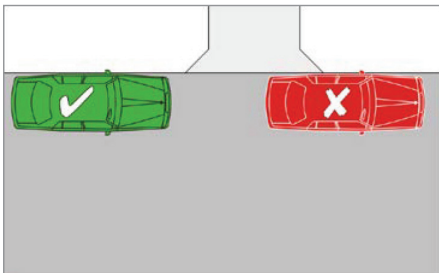
Bus Zone Signs

You must not stop within a bus zone at any time. This zone is only available to public buses.

If there are no signs, you are not allowed to stop within 20m of the approach to a bus stop or within 10m of the departure side.

Parking On or Across a Driveway

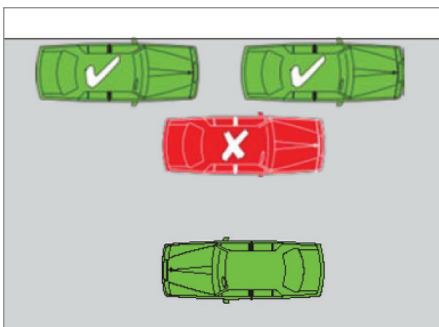
Vehicles parking across driveways can inconvenience nearby residents and result in complaints to Council and the School, particularly when they wish to enter or leave their property and cannot do so because a vehicle is parked across it. Vehicles are not to park in such a manner so as to restrict any part of a driveway. This act can also result in blocking pedestrian access.



Overhanging a driveway

Double Parking

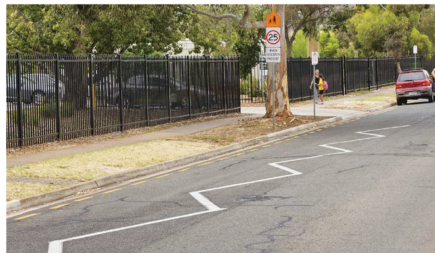
Drivers must not stop next to a vehicle already stopped or parked at the kerb at any time. This practice is illegal and creates dangerous situations for traffic flow and for pedestrians crossing a road.



School Zones

School zones apply in locations where there are children likely to be present on the road or path even if they are on a bike. At any time that a child or a teenager in uniform is present anywhere on the road, including on the path, verge or median, all

drivers must drive at 25km/h or below after passing the school zone signs and zig zag markings until they reach the end of the school zone. It is best to drive slowly and safely anywhere around schools and always travel 25km/h in school zones in case there are children present that you can not see.



Zig Zag markings

School Crossings

There are many types of school crossings, some have flags or flashing lights, all of them have signs and dashed lines across the road. Drivers must not enter the crossing whenever there is a child crossing or about to cross.



6 Helpful Tips for School Zones

As parents and caregivers we have a great responsibility to ensure children stay safe in school zones. We also play a key role in educating children about road safety.

Here are 6 helpful tips for safety in school zones.

1. Consider alternative transport modes to reduce the number of vehicles in school zones (and improve your health!)
2. Allow enough time to take your child to the school gate safely and without rushing.
3. Always observe parking signs and speed limits in and around school zones. They are designed to keep your child safe.
4. Talk about traffic safety with your child. Identify and discuss places where it is safe to get out of the car and to cross the road.
5. Teach your child how to cross the road using the 'stop, look, listen and think' process – stop at the kerb, look and listen for traffic and then decide whether it is safe to cross.
6. Park a few streets away and walk your child to school to reduce congestion and improve safety. This is also good exercise and helps teach your child road safety rules.

Behaviours To Avoid

- Speeding (note that 25km/h school zones apply when children are present, including children on the path)
- Double parking
- Parking too close to an intersection
- Parking across driveways
- Parking too close to pedestrian crossings