Pacific Pines State High School

Personal Mobility Devices Policy

Pacific Pines State High

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Purpose

Pacific Pines State High School actively promotes road safety and encourages safe behaviours when travelling to and from school. We recognise that some students use bicycles, e-bikes, and personal mobility devices, such as e-scooters, to travel to and from school.

Scope

This policy applies to students, staff and visitors who bring or use a bicycle, e-bike, personal mobility device or wheeled recreational device on Pacific Pines State High School grounds.

The policy establishes requirements for the safe movement and storage of these devices on school grounds and provides guidance for students travelling to and from school in accordance with applicable Queensland road rules.

Motorised mobility devices used by people with disability or mobility limitations are not subject to the restrictions applying to personal transport and recreational devices under this policy.

Definitions

E-bike
An electric bicycle that uses pedals as its primary source of power and has an electric motor that provides assistance while riding. E-bikes must meet applicable Queensland requirements to be legally used in public places.

Personal mobility device (PMD)
An electrically powered vehicle designed for use by one person, such as an e-scooter, e-skateboard, e-unicycle or other self-balancing device. E-bikes, motorised mobility devices and wheeled recreational devices are not classified as PMDs.

Wheeled recreational device
A device generally propelled by human power and used for recreation or play, such as a skateboard, roller skates, rollerblades, or foot scooter. A foot scooter powered by a small electric motor of 200 watts or less, with a maximum speed of 10 km/h, is also considered a wheeled recreational device under Queensland rules.

Motorised mobility device (MMD)
A motorised wheelchair or mobility scooter used to assist a person with disability or permanent or long-term physical limitations. A person using a motorised mobility device is considered a pedestrian under the Queensland road rules and is subject to different requirements from riders of e-bikes and personal mobility devices.

Device
For the purposes of this policy, *device* collectively refers to bicycles, e-bikes, personal mobility devices and wheeled recreational devices, unless otherwise specified.

School Requirements

Arrival and Departure

Riding bicycles, e-bikes, personal mobility devices and wheeled recreational devices on school grounds is prohibited.

Upon arrival at school, students must dismount and walk their device to the pedestrian entry at Gate 2. Students must continue to walk their device while on school grounds, including when travelling to and from the designated bike rack.

When departing the school, students must walk their device from the bike rack and through Gate 2 before commencing to ride.

Storage and Security

Students must store bicycles, e-bikes, scooters, and skateboards at the designated bike rack located next to the cages at the basketball courts.

Students are responsible for providing their own lock and appropriately securing their device while it is stored at school.

The designated bike rack is not undercover. Students should consider weather conditions when bringing a device to school.

Devices must not be left in entrances, pathways, emergency access areas, or other locations where they may create an obstruction or safety hazard.

Charging and Battery Safety

E-bike, e-scooter and other personal mobility device batteries must not be charged on school grounds unless expressly authorised by the school.

Students must not bring a device or battery onto school grounds if it shows signs of significant damage, overheating or another condition that may present a safety or fire risk.

Safe and Lawful Use

Students travelling to and from school by e-bike or personal mobility device must comply with applicable Queensland road rules.

This includes requirements relating to age and driver licensing, supervision and exemptions, approved helmets, speed limits, permitted riding locations, giving way to pedestrians, mobile phone use, passengers, safety equipment, and the legal compliance of the device.

Students must not ride or otherwise use a device on school grounds in a manner that creates a safety risk to students, staff, visitors, or other members of the school community.

Device Compliance

Students and their parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that e-bikes and personal mobility devices used for travel to and from school comply with Queensland requirements.

Queensland Legal Requirements

Age and Licensing Requirements

From 31 August 2026, riders generally must be at least 16 years of age and hold a valid driver licence, at minimum a Learner licence, to ride an e-bike or personal mobility device in Queensland. Equivalent interstate and overseas licences are recognised. Riders must not ride if their licence is expired, suspended, or disqualified. Exemptions apply in certain circumstances, as outlined below.

Supervision and Exemptions

A rider who is under 16 or is aged 16-17 and does not yet hold a driver licence, may ride under the supervision exemption. The rider must be supervised by a parent, grandparent or legal guardian who remains within a safe distance to provide instructions.

Age and licensing requirements also do not apply in certain recreational riding areas. These include rail trails, private property with permission and commercial bike parks. E-bikes may also be ridden on permitted mountain bike trails. The applicable Queensland road rules continue to apply in public recreational areas.

People aged 16 or older who cannot obtain a driver licence because of a medical condition or disability may be eligible for an e-mobility driver licence exemption. An eligible rider must obtain the required exemption and carry it while riding.

Helmet Requirements

Riders of bicycles, e-bikes and personal mobility devices must wear an approved bicycle or motorcycle helmet that is securely fitted and fastened. Limited exemptions may apply for specified medical, physical, or religious reasons.

For human-powered wheeled recreational devices, such as skateboards and non-electric foot scooters, a helmet is recommended but is not generally required by law. A helmet is required when riding an electric-powered wheeled recreational device.

Equipment and Lighting

Bicycles and e-bikes must have at least one working brake and a working bell, horn, or similar warning device. Personal mobility devices must have an effective stopping system and, where the device has handlebars, a working bell, horn, or similar warning device.

When riding at night or in conditions where visibility is reduced, riders must display:

- a white front light visible from at least 200 metres
- a red rear light visible from at least 200 metres
- a red rear reflector visible from at least 50 metres when illuminated by vehicle headlights.

Mobile Phone Use

Riders must not hold a mobile phone in their hand or rest it on any part of their body while riding an e-bike or personal mobility device. Permitted hands-free use differs depending on the type of device. Riders should refer to the applicable Queensland road rules for detailed requirements.

Speed Limits and Permitted Riding Areas

E-bikes and personal mobility devices may generally be ridden on footpaths and shared paths unless prohibited by signs or other restrictions. Riders must keep left, give way to pedestrians and ride with due care and attention.

The following speed limits apply:

- **Footpaths:** maximum 12 km/h.
- **Shared paths:** riders must comply with the signed speed limit and slow to a maximum of 12 km/h when passing pedestrians.
- **Separated paths and bicycle paths:** personal mobility devices may travel at a maximum of 25 km/h unless a lower limit is signed.

Personal mobility devices may also be ridden on roads and streets with a speed limit of 60 km/h or less, and in bicycle lanes on roads with a speed limit of 60 km/h or less. They may use a physically separated bicycle lane regardless of the road's speed limit. A maximum PMD riding speed of 25 km/h applies in these permitted road locations unless a lower limit applies.

E-bikes may be ridden on most Queensland roads and paths unless bicycle use is prohibited and must comply with the bicycle road rules.

Passengers

A personal mobility device is designed for one person only and must not be used to carry a passenger.

A passenger may be carried on a bicycle or e-bike only where the bicycle is designed to carry more than one person and has an appropriate passenger seat. Each person must wear an approved helmet.

E-Bike Requirements

To be legally ridden in public places in Queensland, an e-bike must:

- use pedals as its primary source of power
- have a motor with a maximum continuous rated power output of 250 watts
- provide motor assistance only up to 25 km/h
- stop providing motor assistance after 25 km/h
- use throttle assistance only up to 6 km/h to assist with starting
- comply with European Standard EN 15194 and display the required compliance label.

Modifying an e-bike may make it non-compliant. After-market conversion kits and high-powered e-bikes that are electronically or software-limited to appear compliant may not meet the requirements for legal use on public roads or paths.

Personal Mobility Device Requirements

A personal mobility device, such as an e-scooter, e-skateboard or e-unicycle, must:

- be designed for use by one person
- be powered by an electric motor
- have one or more wheels
- weigh no more than 60 kg when not carrying a person or load

- be no more than 750 mm wide
- be no more than 1,350 mm high
- have a wheelbase no longer than 1,100 mm where the device has two or more axles
- have a maximum motor-propelled speed of 25 km/h.

Vehicles with pedals, motorised mobility devices such as mobility scooters and motorised wheelchairs, and wheeled recreational devices such as ordinary skateboards and foot scooters are not classified as personal mobility devices.

Illegal and Non-Compliant Devices

Not all electric bicycles or scooters sold commercially are legal to ride on Queensland roads and paths. Students and parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that a device used for travel to and from school complies with Queensland requirements.

E-bikes that are illegal for use on public roads and paths include:

- petrol-powered bicycles
- electric bicycles with a motor exceeding 250 watts maximum continuous rated power
- bicycles that can be powered solely by a throttle outside the permitted starting assistance
- high-powered e-bikes that have been electronically or software-limited to meet legal requirements.

After-market modifications may also cause an otherwise compliant e-bike to no longer meet the required standard.

Some electric vehicles that resemble e-bikes are instead classified as electric motorcycles. Where applicable, these vehicles require registration, insurance and an appropriate driver licence and are not permitted on paths.

Police may seize, impound, or destroy illegal devices, and parents or guardians may be fined for allowing a child to ride an illegal device.

Other Resources

For current information about e-bikes, personal mobility devices and Queensland road rules, refer to the following Queensland Government resources:

- E-Bike rules in Queensland
- Rules for personal mobility devices
- Bicycle road rules and safety
- Riding e-bikes and e-scooters on footpaths and shared paths
- E-mobility driver licence exemptions
- Areas you can ride without age or licensing restrictions
- Skateboards, foot scooters and similar
- Electrically Power-Assisted Cycle (EPAC) Assurance Scheme
- Lithium-ion battery safety

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