



Bicycle/Scooter Parking Policy for Pupils and Staff of St. Peter's N.S.

Introductory Statement:

Arising from consultation with parents and members of St. Peter's N.S. community a parking policy for pupils and staff who travel to school by scooter and bicycle was drawn up to ensure a clear understanding of the responsibility and expectations of all cycle/scooter users.

To facilitate pupils and staff who wish to cycle/scoot to school, the school will:

- Provide instruction on road safety as part of the SPHE curriculum.
- Provide a place for bikes and scooters to be stored on school property.
(Staff/pupils/parents/guardians are responsible for locks for their own/child's bicycle/scooter. St. Peter's National School accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage of scooters/bicycles and/or equipment whilst on school property.)

To make cycling/scooting to and from school a positive experience for everyone concerned, we expect our pupils and staff to:

- Cycle/scoot sensibly and safely.
- **Dismount on arrival at the school gate. Bicycles/scooters must be walked onto school grounds.**
- Provide and be responsible for their own bicycle/scooter, light, helmet and lock.
- Take responsibility for checking that their bicycle/scooter is roadworthy and properly maintained.
- Behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling/scooting.
- Wear a cycle helmet.
- Ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using bicycle lights and by wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.

For the well-being of our pupils, we expect parents and guardians to:

- Encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in cycling/scooting.
- Provide their child with the appropriate safety equipment such as high-visibility clothing, bicycle lights and cycle helmet, as appropriate.

- Ensure that the bicycles/scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and regularly maintained.
- **Ensure their child dismount their bicycle/scooter on arrival to St. Peter's N.S.**
- We suggest that parents identify the safest bicycle/scooter travel route to school with their children and point out particular hazards and danger points.
- We suggest parents consult with www.rsa.ie and <https://www2.hse.ie/babies-children/child-safety/transport/cycling-scooting-walking/> for further information.

For the well-being of our school community, we expect staff and pupils who travel by bicycle or scooter to:

- Leave all electric vehicles at home. **St. Peter's N.S. does not permit electric bicycles, electric scooters, hoverboards or other such electric vehicles on school property.**
- Have appropriate locks and safety equipment (lights, high-visibility clothing, helmets etc) to travel and lock their bicycle/scooter on school grounds.
- For the health and safety of pupils, staff and the general public **bicycles/ scooters will not be permitted in the school building under any circumstances.**

Liability and Insurance:

- We strongly recommend that all children who cycle/scoot to school are **accompanied by an adult, until such time as the parent is confident the child has the knowledge and skills to be allowed to cycle/scoot unsupervised.**
- The decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle/scoot to and from school safely rests with the parents/guardian and the **school has no liability for any consequences of that decision.**
- Responsibility for children while they are on their way to or from school rests with parents. **The school can take no responsibility for the safety of children outside school.**
- Staff and parents are advised to take out **appropriate insurance** cover as **the school's insurance does not cover loss or damage to bicycles/scooters.** We recommend naming/labelling bicycles/ scooters, helmets etc.

Roles and Responsibilities/Implementation:

All stakeholders have a role to play in the implementation of this policy from pupils, parents, staff and the Board of Management.

Ratification/Communication:

The policy was reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management in 2023.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

(Chairperson B.O.M.)