BICYCLE SAFETY POLICY
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RATIONALE
The purpose of this Bicycle Policy is to provide a common understanding of bicycle safety and clear articulation of the roles and responsibilities of parents/carers and students riding a bicycle to and from school along with the role and responsibilities of the school.

NSW BICYCLE LAWS
Under New South Wales law all riders of bicycles must wear a helmet displaying a sticker saying the helmet has been approved by Standards Australia.

Children 10 years of age and younger **DO NOT** ride bicycles to and from school unless accompanied by an adult (Road and Traffic Authority, Catholic Schools Office Broken Bay Policy).

Children under 12 who are accompanied by older riders, may ride bikes on the footpath unless there are signs that specifically prohibit cycling. Riders must keep to the left and give way to pedestrians.

Cyclists 12 years and over must not ride on the footpath unless it is signposted as a shared footpath.

BICYCLES (RTA)
- The bicycle must be of an appropriate size for the student and equipped as necessitated by the Road and Traffic Authority.
- Bicycles ridden to school must be in good, safe working order with working brakes and must be fitted with a warning device such as a bell.
- Handlebar ends must be covered.
- Students are encouraged to attach reflectors to their bicycle to help make the bicycle more visible.
- Any attachments likely to endanger the safety of cyclists are not to be fitted.
- Bike Helmets must have Standards Australia sticker and correctly fitted to cyclist.

PARENTS/CARERS ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES
The Role and Responsibilities of Parents and Carers are as follows;
- **Parents/Carers own sole responsibility for their child’s safety and wellbeing riding to and from school.**
- Parents/Carers must accompany the rider **to and from school** if 10 years old or younger (RTA, CSO).
- Provide their child with an appropriate size bicycle, Standards Australia helmet, warning bell, working brakes, handlebar ends must be covered (RTA).
- Provide a chain and lock to secure the bike whilst on school premises (RTA).
- Parents/Carers must educate their child on road safety and NSW Road and Traffic rules and regulations.
- Parents/Carers must co-sign the ‘Student Bicycle User Agreement’ (Appendix A) and ‘Parents Bicycle User Agreement’ (Appendix B) **BEFORE** the first riding day.
- Parents/Carers must supply the school with a map of preferred riding route to and from school (Appendix C).
- Parents/Carers understand the **school is not responsible** for any damage or theft of the bike and bike equipment.
- Parents/Carers understand they will be notified if their child does not adhere to the St John the Baptist Bicycle Policy and permission will be withdrawn until the issues identified have been satisfactorily addressed.
- It is the responsibility of Parents/Carers to ensure bikes and helmets are removed from the school premises at the end of each school day.
ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

The Role and Responsibilities of the Student are as follows:

- Student riding to and from St John the Baptist School has completed the Bicycle User’s Permission Note (Appendix A) and agree to the school’s expectation and requirements of use.
- Student must ride directly to and from school following the map supplied to the school by Parents/Carer (Appendix C).
- The rider at all times must correctly wear Standards Australia approved bicycle helmet.
- All RTA road rules concerning bicycles are followed.
- The student must dismount before entering the school grounds and walk their bicycle in the school grounds.
- Bicycles are to be stored in the bike rack provided. Bicycles must be locked with a chain and padlock supplied by the bicycle owner.
- Bicycles and helmets are brought and stored on school grounds at the owner’s risk. The school is not responsible for any theft or damage to bikes or bike equipment.
- Student understands their Parents/Carers will be notified if they do not adhere to the St John the Baptist Bicycle Policy and permission will be withdrawn until the issues identified have been satisfactorily addressed.
- Student is not to lend their bike to another student.
- Student is not to carry any passenger on their bike.
- Students are not to ride their bike on the school premises at any time.

St John the Baptist School’s Role and Responsibilities:

- Provide the school’s Bicycle Policy to Parents/Carers.
- Have a standardised Permission Note and User Agreement for Students and Parents/Carers.
- Provide a bike rack for securing bikes during school hours.
- Ensure the St John the Baptist Bicycle Policy is enforced. (CSO).
- Notify Parents/Carers of students who do not adhere to the school’s Bicycle Policy and User Agreement.
- The school is not responsible for the theft or damage of bicycles or bike equipment.

Other Wheeled Devices at St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School

Skateboards, scooters and rollerblades are not permitted on any of the school grounds of St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School under any circumstances.

Discretionary Basis

The Principal has the right of discretion to make provision for departure from the Policy or the application of the Policy in the event of unforeseen and exceptional circumstances.

Related Policies and Laws

- Road and Traffic Authority, NSW
- Catholic Schools Office Road Safety Policy

This Policy was written in consultation with SJB executive team. Policy adopted in consultation with staff, October 2013

Signed: Dated: March 2012

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School, Freshwater

STUDENT BICYCLE USER AGREEMENT

I will obey all RTA road rules concerning bicycles. This includes the pedestrian’s right of way on footpaths. I will use the bell as a warning when approaching pedestrians.

I agree to always ride **to and from school** accompanied by an adult because I am 10 years old or younger.

I understand that if I am 11 years old or younger I am allowed to ride on the footpath with an adult to and from school. If I am 12 years old I must ride on the road unless it is signposted as a shared footpath.

I agree to ride to and from school following the exact route on the map my parents/carer has given St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School.

I agree to always wear my Standards Australia approved bicycle helmet correctly when riding to and from school.

I understand that it is a joint responsibility between my parents and I to keep the bike in good and safe working order and that all protective equipment as required by law is used by me during my journey.

I agree to dismount before entering St John the Baptist school grounds and walk my bicycle whilst on site.

I understand that if I bring my bicycle to school I do so at my own risk and will secure it with a lock and chain in the bike rack. Bicycles and helmets are brought and stored on school grounds at the owner’s risk.

I will not ride my bike in the school grounds during and after hours.

I will not lend my bike to another student when travelling to and from St John the Baptist.

I will not carry any passengers on my bike.

I ________________________________ understand and agree to the conditions and expectations of St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School riding a bike to and from school.

I am in grade: ___________________________ . Signed: ___________________________

Date: ______________________________________________________________________

Parent signature: __________________________  Date: ___________________________
BICYCLE USER AGREEMENT & EXPECTATIONS: PARENTS/CARERS

Parents/Carers, in signing this agreement you ratify your understanding of St John the Baptist expectations of bicycle riding to and from school and agree to the conditions and NSW laws of use.

I understand and agree that the safety of my child riding to and from St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School is solely my responsibility as the Parent/Carer.

I agree to accompany my child riding their bike to and from school as he/she is 10 years of age or younger. Children in this age group have not yet fully developed their peripheral vision and road skills required to ride safely without Parent/Carers supervision (RTA).

I have supplied my child with the appropriate size bike in good condition, working brakes, warning bell and Standards Australia approved helmet which is appropriately fitted.

I have educated my child on the Road and Traffic Authority’s laws and regulations and am confident my child will adhere to them.

I have supplied the St John the Baptist with a map of the fastest route which my child must adhered to riding to and from school.

I have read and agree to St John the Baptist Parent/Carer permission form and returned it to the school Principal along with the map outlining the route my child is expected to ride, to and from school.

I have read and co-signed the St John the Baptist Bicycle User Agreement for Students.

I understand St John the Baptist will notify me if my child does not adhere to the School’s Bicycle Policy and User Agreement and that my child’s privilege of riding to and from school may be revoked.

I understand and agree that St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School is not responsible for theft or damage to the bike or bike equipment whilst on the school grounds.

I have completed the St John the Baptist Parent/Carer Permission Form and returned it to the school Principal.

I _________________________ Parent/Carer of __________________________ have read St John the Baptist Bicycle Policy and Student User Agreement and understand the responsibility of my child’s safety, bicycle and bicycle equipment is my sole responsibility.

Signed: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________
St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School, Freshwater

MAP of BICYCLE USER

NAME: _______________________________________   GRADE: ________________

Please draw and label below the expected route your child will ride to and from St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School.