



## Try the Route

Parents and carers are responsible for ensuring that their children have an adequate level of riding ability to be able to manage themselves safely.

We recommend that you simulate your child's trip a few times to and from school before their first independent trip. It is important to know the route your children will take. You can learn about the challenges they may experience by travelling the route together and assisting them to overcome those challenges.

### Consider the following:

Does the route;

- follow quiet streets?
- have the least number of road crossings?
- follow pathways or does your child have to ride or scoot partly on the road?
- cross difficult intersections?
- cross signed, supervised or signalised crossings?
- require your child to look for a safe place to cross the road?
- have clear sightlines, and is it clearly visible from nearby residences, roads or parks?

Have you worked with your child to ensure they use the 'Stop, Look, Listen and Think' procedure before crossing the roads?

Is your younger child under the supervision of your older child? If so, discuss the importance of staying together.

When you travel the route with your child, discuss how they can be safe on their journey. Things like looking ahead, being aware, keeping left, being careful around driveways and reversing cars, and giving way to pedestrians.

If necessary, think of some alternative routes, keeping the above questions in mind.

### Tips and Tricks

- Remind your children to dismount at intersections and cross roads, and walk their bikes across the road
- Familiarise your child with the bike storage area for your school, and which entry to use at the school
- Ensure they use their bike lock – write the combination to their lock inside their school bag
- Try and buddy up with other children who live nearby to travel together.