

Dear Parent/Carer

You may be receiving this letter because your child or teen is learning about rail safety at school. We encourage you to take an interest in and be involved in the TrackSAFE Education: Rail Safety for Schools program. What you say and do really matters.

What we model matters

As adults we have an important role to play in all keeping young people safe. What we say and what we do around trains, trams, tracks and level crossings matters. Students learn how to manage their safety near trains, tracks and pedestrian level crossings from the messages and practices of all members of the school community. This includes parents, other students, family members, teachers, police and rail authorities.

Trains and trams surprise us. They are surprisingly fast, surprisingly quiet and surprisingly heavy. We do not hear them coming, they move great distances in short lengths of time, and they can take a long time to stop. It matters that as parents and carers we:

- STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK and only cross train or tram tracks at designated crossings;
- Use the signs, lights and bells to cross safely;
- Always walk in safe areas away from tracks;
- Stand and walk well behind the yellow or white line on the platform to avoid being knocked over by passing trains or trams, or onto the tracks by other passengers;
- Remove headphones and pause a phone conversation before crossing tracks.



How students learn matters



It matters that we find time to listen to and talk with young people about how best to manage the influence of peer pressure, the effects of headphones and hoodies on what we can hear, and any other distractions that can put us in danger in a rail environment.

However, simply knowing about how to keep safe around trains and tracks does not necessarily mean that young people, especially when they are in the company of other young people, will act in ways that keep themselves safe.

Why does rail safety education matter?

35% of people seriously injured in train collisions are young people.

Most incidents are preventable.

Quality, deep learning from a young age can help.

How TrackSAFE Education works

Our program encourages students to actively and skilfully identify and explore the rail safety challenges for young people within their local community. The learning process is teacher led, student centred and

designed to be integrated into the Australian Curriculum learning areas of English, The Arts (Drama) and Health & PE.

By working together to explore, develop and act on local solutions to local problems, students can directly influence their own safety, and the safety of other young people, in and around rail environments. TrackSAFE Education enables students to develop capabilities for keeping themselves and their friends safe.

Get involved!

The teacher can give you ideas on how you can best support the specific lessons they are doing at school. You can also encourage your child or teen to visit our student pages at tracksafeeducation.com.au to learn more about rail safety at home.

For further information please visit our website at tracksafeeducation.com.au and click on 'parents and community', or contact us at info@tracksafeeducation.com.au.

We thank you for making rail safety a priority in your family.

**Keep the
rail safety
conversation
going!**



#railsafety  **tracksafeeducation**  **@TrackSAFEed**

Please note you assume responsibility for sharing your child/a child in your care's images.