Dear Parents,

During 2009, at the request of some parents, School Council reviewed the school policy in relation to children riding bikes to school. The new policy is available for you on the reverse of this notice but, in short, students will be permitted to ride bikes to school in line with the guidelines described and Victorian road laws. Our new policy has been formulated based on advice from Bicycles Victoria and VicRoads.

Children riding bikes to school must:

- Ride accompanied by an adult from Prep to Grade 4. This is still strongly encouraged for children in Grades 5/6.
- Store bikes in the bike racks between our two infill buildings.
- Provide their own lock to secure their bike.
- Store their helmet in line with the class teacher’s instructions, if the adult accompanying them is unable to take the helmet home.
- Walk their bike in the school grounds and across any pedestrian crossings.
- Ride in a safe and courteous manner.
- Stay well away from the bike racks except when depositing or collecting their own bike.

To effectively manage the implementation of bike riding, we have put in place a “staggered start” to the riding of bikes to enable the school to monitor and manage the number of bikes that are likely to be at school each day. Each learning level in the school will be assigned one day per week in term one when they may choose to ride their bike to school. Each Friday, any child from any level who was unable to ride on the assigned day may choose to ride their bike. Please see table below. As helmet storage for a large number of children is problematic we are asking adults who accompany riders to take the helmets home for the day where possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of the Week</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Level 4 – Grades 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Level 3 – Grades 3 and 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Level 2 – Grades 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Level 1 – Preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Any child from any Level who was unable to ride their bike on the assigned day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To further support a safe and smooth implementation of the Bike Riding policy, we have booked a Traffic Safety program for all children from grades 4 – 6. This program, “Street Scene”, is delivered by the RACV and will focus on bike safety. Further bike education will be considered for later in the year. A special day to launch our bike riding policy will be conducted later in the term. Stay tuned for more information.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Friday, February 12th, 2010
GLEN IRIS PRIMARY SCHOOL BICYCLE POLICY

Rationale
Students travelling to and from school, as well as those at school need to feel and be safe. Bicycles are a popular means of transport for students, but their safe use requires regulation and management.

Objective
To encourage students and families to use safe practices for cycling when riding to and from school.

Implementation
In addition to Road Safety Rules, the following applies to use of bicycles for Glen Iris students

- Parents/carers are responsible for their children’s safety when riding bicycles.
- Bicycle equipment is the responsibility of parents/carers and must be roadworthy.
- GIPS will provide appropriate storage for bicycles and scooters ridden to school by students.
- Students must provide their own lock for securing their bicycle in the storage area.
- Students must wear a properly fitted helmet and are encouraged to wear a safety vest when riding a bicycle.
- Students in Prep to Year 4 ride to school in the company of an adult. VicRoads’ note that up until age 12 most children do not have the skills and experience to be safe in complex traffic without supervision, consequently parents/carers are also encouraged to accompany students in grade 5 and 6.
- Children under the age of twelve may ride on footpaths as may a supervising adult. They are required to give way to pedestrians and to wheel their bicycles over pedestrian and children’s crossings. Children aged twelve years or older are required by law to ride on the road.
- Students must dismount from their bicycles at the school entrance. Riding is not permitted inside the school grounds at any time, unless under direct supervision of an appropriately trained teacher.
- Students who break school rules will be managed in accordance with the school’s Student Code of Conduct. Consequences of breaking these rules may include students not being allowed to bring their bike onto the school grounds for a period of time determined by the Principal or their delegate.

Management
The School Principal, with support from School Council’s Buildings and Environment Sub Committee, will manage the implementation of this policy.

Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.