

Traffic Management Plan

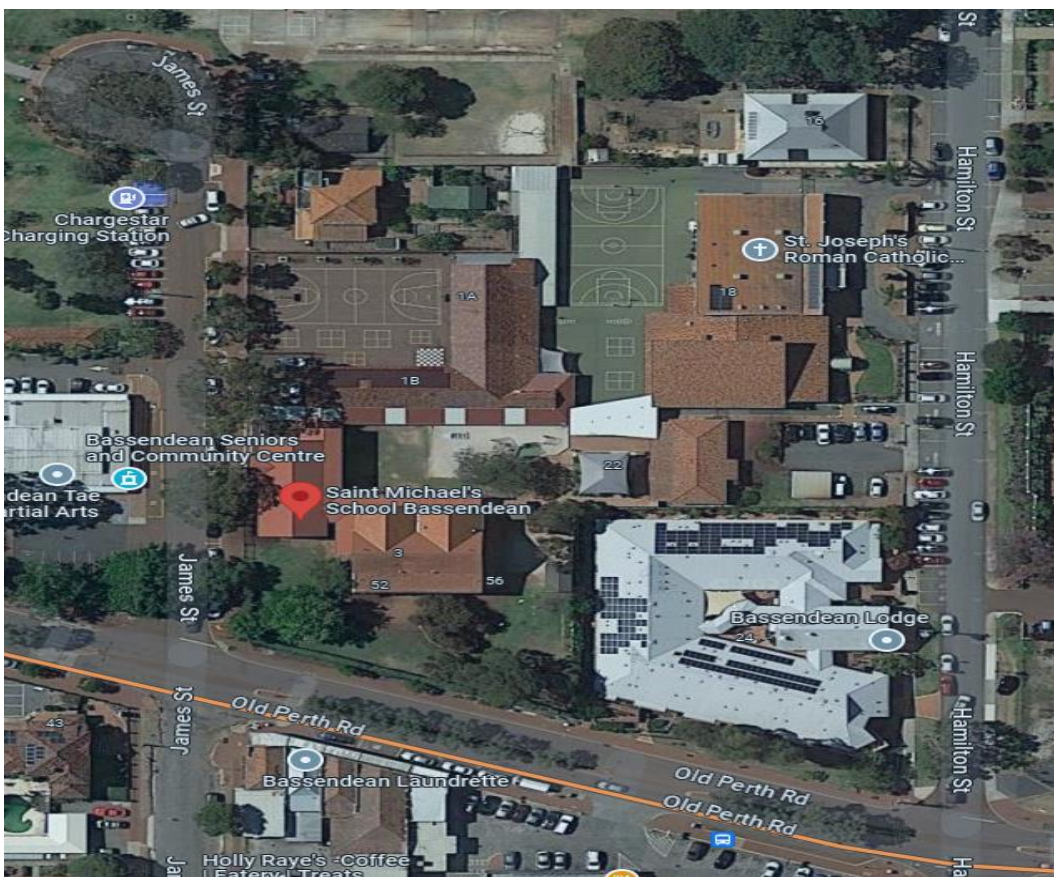


Like many schools, St Michael's School has challenges with school traffic congestion, particularly at school drop off and pick up times. The school environment can become busy and congested during drop off and pick up due to the number of people commuting to site by various modes of transport, such as walking, bikes and vehicles.

Younger children (generally those under 10) do not have well developed peripheral vision. Their cognitive and perceptual abilities combined with their active behaviour may put them in higher risk situations in a road environment, particularly at busy times when traffic volumes are high. Children are also at risk around the school because they are smaller and less visible to drivers. Their behaviour can be less predictable than adults and they may have errors of judgement when dealing with traffic.

It is the responsibility of all drivers in the school community to follow the Traffic Management Plan to ensure the safety of all students. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure students get safely to and from school. The school takes on duty of care once the student enters the school gate from 8.20am – 3.00pm.

St Michael's School is bounded by James Street, Old Perth Road, and Hamilton Street. 40km/hr school zones operate during pick up and drop off. Please be aware that Old Perth Road always has a 40km/hr speed limit.



No Go Pedestrian Zones

Within St Michael's School traffic boundaries the following areas are deemed "no go pedestrian zones":

- Staff car park James Street
- Staff car park Hamilton Street
- St Joseph's Parish circular drive way

These zones should not be used by pedestrians during school hours or be used as access or egress from the school premises as they pose safety hazards.



Parking

There is limited street parking available on James Street, Hamilton Street and Old Perth Road. Alternative parking is available at the Bassendean Village and Bassendean Square shopping centres.

Parents are **NOT** to use the car park at the Bassendean Seniors and Community Centre.

Parents are not permitted to use the staff car parks on James Street and Hamilton Street. Please do not enter the James Street car park and use as a turn around.



When parking on James Street in the marked parking bays, students are encouraged to walk down and around the turning circle. Students should not cross James Street between parked cars due to low visibility.

Please do not park in the Kiss and Drive zone which is indicated by the yellow line markings and signposts.

Parents please do not call your child to cross James Street. They must walk down and around the turning circle, or parents must exit their vehicle, cross the road and collect their child.

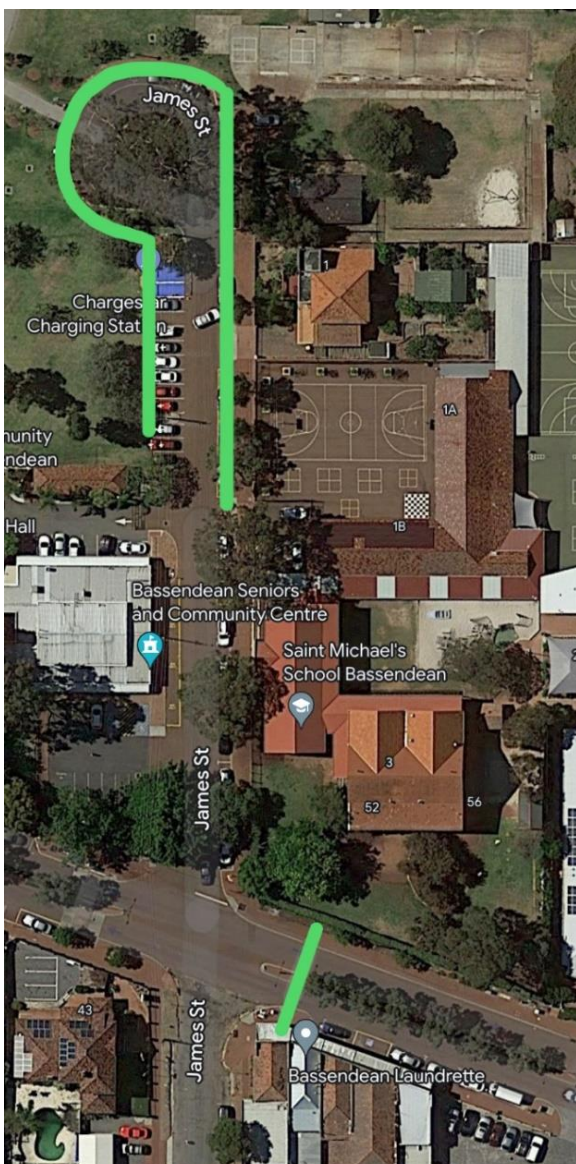
James Street Kiss and Drive

St Michael's School Kiss and Drive zone operates between 8.20am and 9.00am and 2.30pm and 3.15pm. No parking is permitted during these times. Reminder slips are available from the school office should a community member see a car parked in this area during these times.

Cars should enter James Street and continue all the way down to the turning circle and back up to the designated drop off zone indicated by the yellow line markings. When using this area, drivers must always remain in the vehicle. Please wait patiently in the queue and do not overtake other vehicles. Students are to enter and exit the vehicle using the lefthand doors only. Please do not linger in the Kiss and Drive zone. When children are clear of the vehicle, indicate and enter the traffic flow. No U turns permitted in James Street.

If your child requires assistance to enter or exit the vehicle, please use a designated parking bay and not the Kiss and Drive zone.

When walking home, students are encouraged to walk down and around the turning circle or cross James Street at the Old Perth Road stop sign. Students should not cross James Street between parked cars due to low visibility. When crossing Old Perth Road, please use the median island to cross the road in two stages. Please do not call to your child from across the street.



Walking and Riding to School


Walking to school is encouraged for children.

- Where possible walk to school with your children especially if they are under the age of 10
- Arrange for another adult or group of older friends to walk with your children
- Walk your children along the safest route to school and identify hazards and appropriate crossing locations along the way.
- Use appropriate crossing locations and teach that to cross safely you must
 - Walk up to the crossing
 - Stop
 - Look
 - Listen
 - Think
 - Keep looking and listening whilst crossing
 - Do not run, ride or skate across
 - Do not cross between parked cars

Pedestrian Safety

Children are considered vulnerable road users because up to about 10 years of age they may not be developmentally ready ie they do not have the physical and cognitive skills to make their own safe judgements and choices about traffic, vehicle speed, and distances.

Child pedestrians are at risk because they have:

- **Developing peripheral vision**
Children are less likely to notice objects not directly in front of them as their peripheral vision is still developing (it is one-third of an adult's field of vision). Unless they turn their heads, they may not notice vehicles to their right or left.
 - **Developing directional hearing**
Children may often be unable to judge where sounds are coming from and may expect traffic to come from the wrong direction.
 - **Small stature**
Because of a child's size, it is often difficult for drivers to see them, especially when a child is standing between parked cars.
 - **Limited sense of perception**
Children have trouble judging how fast a vehicle is coming towards them or how far away a vehicle is. They may let a slow-moving vehicle pass and then cross in front of a fast moving vehicle.
 - **Poor search behaviour and do not take sufficient time to look when crossing the road**
Children like to keep moving. As a result, they may not wait for traffic lights to change, for cars to stop at crosswalks, or give enough time to complete a thorough search procedure before they step onto the road.
 - **Unpredictable behaviour – do not consider the consequences of their actions**
Children often have trouble stopping at the kerb especially if they are excited or focused on something and may run onto the road without thinking.
 - **A tendency to be easily distracted**
Children tend to focus only on the things that interest them most. They are easily distracted in the company of friends and cannot be relied upon to use safe behaviour consistently.
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- **Limited ability to respond quickly to a sudden change in traffic conditions**
Children may be able to say when the road is clear and safe to cross but a sudden change in traffic conditions can cause confusion and panic.
- **Difficulty seeing a situation from another's viewpoint**
Children often think that if they can see a car approaching them then the driver must be able to see them too.
- **An unwillingness to change from a direct route even if it is dangerous**

Children may also be at risk because of their:

- Lack of knowledge and skills to deal safely with the traffic environment
- Responsiveness to peer pressure
- Propensity to take risks
- Parents or other adults over-estimating their ability
- Possible lack of road side training
- Presence on the road not being anticipated by drivers; and
- Lack of experience dealing with different traffic situations

Parents and guardians can assist with traffic management by:

- Being a good role model to children in the way we manage our behaviour during drop off and pick up times. Be patient, courteous, and respectful of our school neighbours and wider community
- Walk, cycle or scooter to school
- Use public transport
- Plan your trip so you arrive at school to park within the designated car bays or use kiss and drive
- Adhere to signage at all times
- Slow down around the school. The 40km/hr school zone operates on James and Hamilton Streets. Old Perth Road is permanently 40km/hr
- Lead by example and be pedestrian aware and vigilant
- Follow school drop off and pick up routines

Further information is available at:

www.roadwise.asn.au

www.dpi.wa.gov.au

www.pta.wa.gov.au

www.sdera.wa.edu.au

www.kidsafewa.com.au

www.yourmove.org.au