



E-bikes: Advice for families

An e-bike is a bicycle that is powered with rechargeable batteries, providing electric assistance while pedalling.

Is my child permitted to ride an e-bike?

Your child can ride a privately owned e-bike, if it meets the requirements outlined below. Shared (hired) e-bikes usually have a minimum age requirement. Always check the minimum age requirements before allowing your child to ride a shared e-bike.

What are the requirements for e-bikes?

There are two types of e-bikes permitted in NSW.

Electrically power-assisted cycle requirements

An electrically power-assisted bicycle has a maximum continued rated power of up to 500 watts. This power output must be:

- ▶ progressively reduced as the bicycle's speed increases beyond 6km/h

▶ cut off when:

- the bicycle reaches a speed of 25km/h
- the rider stops pedalling and the speed exceeds 6km/h.

Power-assisted pedal cycle requirements

- ▶ has one or more motors attached with a combined maximum power output of up to 200 watts
- ▶ can't be propelled only by the motor/s
- ▶ must weigh less than 50kg (including batteries)
- ▶ have a height-adjustable seat.

It is important to carefully check the manufacturer's details on any bike you are buying for your child.

Any powered bicycle that does not meet the above requirements is **illegal to use on roads or road related areas.**



Are petrol-powered bicycles permitted on NSW roads?

No. All petrol-powered bicycles are **illegal** on NSW roads and road-related areas such as footpaths, shared paths, cycle ways and cycle paths.

Petrol-powered bicycles can only be used on private property.

Safe riding tips for your child

- ▶ Your child must wear an approved helmet when riding a bike in a public place. **It is the law.**
- ▶ Until they are **at least 10** years old, your child should ride off-road away from vehicles and driveways. The safest place to ride is within a fenced area.
- ▶ Children aged between 10 and 12 should ride away from busy roads.
- ▶ Children under 16 and adult riders accompanying and supervising them may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting bicycle riding.
- ▶ When riding wear light or bright clothing to help other people see you and your child.
- ▶ If your child is riding on a footpath or shared path, they (and any adult accompanying them) must keep to the left and give way to any pedestrian on the path.

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For more information, please visit:

- ▶ transport.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety

The information in this brochure is intended as a guide only and is subject to change at any time without notice. It does not replace the relevant legislation, nor should it be regarded as legal advice.