



Department of Education

## **Wooragee Primary School in Action**

**Key Priority Area: Active Travel Type of Funding: Active Schools** 



| School Overview: | Located in Northeast Victoria, this small rural school has around 50 enrolled students across Foundation to Year 6. The school's location does not allow for easy access to sporting facilities and structured school sport. However, bike paths, access to natural spaces and creative natural learning environments give opportunities for imaginative play, adventure and recreational activity throughout the school day.   |
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| Project Goal:    | The school aims to provide a stimulating learning environment where students are active and engaged learners who collaborate, explore and connect with the school and the wider community. The school's focus is to provide students with access to equipment to learn and practice how to ride safely in the community. Students will develop the confidence and skills to use cycling as a form of recreation beyond the school grounds and Bike Education will be embedded into the school curriculum. |

The school began their project by purchasing a fleet of bicycles that would allow all students the opportunity to participate in a whole school Bike Education program. Students were involved throughout the process and attended an excursion to the local bike shop to ensure the correct sizing of helmets that would enable all students the opportunity to be involved. A hands-on learning day was planned where students participated in assembling all the bicycles. This promoted student engagement, interest, ownership, and pride in the school bikes. Students learned valuable bike maintenance skills as well such as checking the brakes, chain, and tyre pressure to allow for safe cycling.



A community partnership with <u>Bicycle Network</u> provided a variety of sessions to enhance the whole school Bike Education program including Bike Education lessons, parent information sessions and bike parking consultation. The partnership allowed the school to receive free bike parking infrastructure that has allowed safe storage to encourage active travel.

The student leadership team then planed a Ride2School day to celebrate the arrival of the new bikes and the beginning of their Bike Education program. Students created posters highlighting the benefits of active travel; arranged maps to assist students to travel to school safely; arranged a meeting point for students to ride to school together; designed an obstacle course for students who arrived at school early, and a healthy breakfast was provided when students arrived at school.

The final part of embedding a whole school Eike education program was including opportunities for safe cycling throughout the school day. The school allows students to explore 'Yirrikama', the school's nature learning space, during break times and as a positive reward for students demonstrating respect, resilience and responsibility.

| <b>Active School Strategy</b>   | Impact  |
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| <b>Equipment:</b> Purchase of bicycles and safety equipment to provide opportunities for all students.  | Every student at the school now has the opportunity to participate in the Bike Education program. Students have been involved throughout the entire process which has created ownership and pride in the equipment which will be available for years to come. |
| Student Voice and Agency: Plan and organise hosting a whole school Ride 2 School celebration day  | The school student leaders planned and organised Ride2School day which included a whole school ride, hosting a healthy breakfast and an obstacle course on the school grounds.  |
| Active recreation: Create opportunities for cycling during lunch, recess and as a positive behaviour reward.  | A student leadership group organises the opportunity to participate in cycling during lunchtimes in Yirrikama. The school supervision roster allows for a teacher to safely supervise students during this break time.  |
| Community links: Make connections with external organisations and the local community to enhance the delivery of a whole school Bike Education program. | The partnership with Bicycle Network enabled the school to receive Bike Education lesson, education for the school community and free bike parking infrastructure to support their bike education plan.   |