

# MEDIA STATEMENT

13 October 2020

## Road safety school superstar shares tips

Students returning to Killarney State School this term have been welcomed by a familiar face – long-serving school crossing supervisor Sharon Byrne.

Transport and Main Roads Customer Services Branch general manager Geoff Magoffin said Ms Byrne was among the state's most dedicated supervisors.

"Ms Byrne's commitment to guarding the safety and wellbeing of our school kids has rightly earned her a place as a highly valued identity in the community," Mr Magoffin said.

"Since starting as a supervisor in 1984 she's seen quite a few changes but one thing remains unchanged and that's her message to drivers."

Ms Byrne puts it very simply.

"It is so important for drivers to slow down and be alert when travelling through school zones," Ms Byrne said.

"Children can be unpredictable, which is why drivers should take extra caution to approach school areas slowly and watch out for kids.

"Distracted drivers can be particularly dangerous around schools – it's important to keep your eyes on the road and hands on the wheel at all times.

"In my 36 years as a school crossing supervisor I've seen people eating and even putting on makeup while driving and more recently using their mobile phones.

"While it's my job as a supervisor to help children safely cross the road, protecting the safety of our kids doesn't only rest with me.

"Everyone has a role to play when it comes to road safety."

Drivers can do their part around schools by following these tips:

- Never double park, park in 'no-stopping' zones or use them as drop-off areas.
- Don't park on pedestrian (zebra) crossings or 20 metres before and 10 metres after a pedestrian crossing (it makes it difficult for children to cross and for motorists and school crossing supervisors to see).
- Always obey the instructions of school crossing supervisors by stopping and waiting until all pedestrians have crossed the road and the supervisor has returned to the kerb.

For more information about the School Crossing Supervisor Scheme or to apply to become a school crossing supervisor, visit [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Safety/School-road-safety/Safe-school-travel-safest](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Safety/School-road-safety/Safe-school-travel-safest).

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**Media contact: TMR media unit 30667060**