



Media Release

Thursday 6 October 2016

Ladbrooks School gets new kea crossing

Ladbrooks Primary School has had a kea crossing installed and it will start operating next week when school resumes for term four.

Selwyn District Council assessed the site at Ladbrooks and decided a crossing was necessary in order to keep pupils safe when they travel to and from school. School students and staff will operate the crossing and the Council provided the equipment needed to get the crossing up and running.

Around 15 students attended a training course with Constable Megan Robertson and Constable Rick Groen before the school holidays to prepare themselves for the job of 'School Patrol.' Selwyn District Council's Road Safety Coordinator, Ngaire Tinning, also attended the session.

Constable Robertson reminded motorists of the rules relating to kea crossings and the importance of following them.

"Motorists, when approaching a kea crossing, should be aware of all the signs, the posted speed limit and be prepared to stop in a hurry if they need to do so," she says. "They need to know and understand that while these kea crossings are in place the students and supervisors operating them can lawfully stop all traffic."

A kea crossing is a safe place for children to cross the road. School students operate Stop signs which they put out to let children cross, then pull back in to let traffic flow. They are supervised by a parent or member of staff from the school.

When approaching a kea crossing, if the 'lollipop' Stop barriers are out across the road motorists must come to a stop behind the painted 'limit lines.' Once the Stop barriers are brought back in, motorists may continue forward while still being mindful of surrounding hazards and the speed limits in place.

If the crossing is not manned by a school patrol, pedestrians do not have the right of way to use the crossing point. They must wait until it's safe to cross when no vehicles are coming.

Kirwee School students and parents will also start operating a new kea crossing during term four. There are other kea crossings operating on Rolleston Drive (for Rolleston School), at Darfield, Lincoln, and Clearview. More are planned throughout Selwyn district in the near future.

If schools wish to discuss establishing kea crossings, they can contact Selwyn District Council's Road Safety Coordinator, Ngaire Tinning. School students and adult volunteers operate the kea crossing, with the Council and Police working together to support the school to establish the crossing.

Ends

Photo attached: *Ladbrooks school students operating the new kea crossing with help from local Police*

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