



Speech by

**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

Hansard Thursday, 24 March 2011

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## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Schools, Road Safety**

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs) (10.05 am): Mr Speaker, I am sure you would agree that the safety of Queensland school students is of great importance. It is vital that we teach our children road safety from an early age. The Department of Transport and Main Roads, together with the Department of Education and Training, has developed a comprehensive curriculum based road safety education package for students from prep to year 9. By combining the resources and experience of both the Department of Transport and Main Roads and the Department of Education and Training, we are now able to offer our teachers the tools to prepare our children for road use. The resource covers topics such as travelling safely as pedestrians, passengers and cyclists, using the bus, crossing the road safely, safer school travel and road safety advertising.

Last Friday the member for Redcliffe and I visited the Southern Cross Catholic College to hand out road safety kits to prep and year 1 students. The Queensland government is committed to improving the road safety of children, regardless of whether they walk, cycle or travel by bus or car.

Today I would like to take this opportunity to announce that 15 additional supervised school crossings will be open this financial year. There will be supervised school crossings at Norfolk Village State School, Southport; the Yarrilee State School, Maryborough; the Parkhurst State School, Rockhampton; the Redlynch State College at Cairns; the Townsville Grammar School; and the Unity Catholic College at Caloundra, just to name a few. The Queensland government has expanded the vital School Crossing Supervisor Scheme to further widen the road safety net around state school students. Another 15 supervised road crossings will be provided outside 14 Queensland schools by 30 June and up to 40 crossing supervisors will be employed to staff them.

School crossing supervisors play an important role in protecting and educating children about road safety as they travel to and from school. In the 27 years that the scheme has been in operation there has not been one death on a supervised crossing. The Queensland government is committed to helping keep our children safe, and we are proud to announce these two great initiatives today.