

Dawson Elementary's Walker and Bike Rider Policy

(ONLY Triple Creek residents will be permitted to walk or bike to/from school.)

Students walking and riding their bike to and from school **MUST** follow the rules below for the safety of our students, families, and staff. Students who do not follow the policies may receive disciplinary action at school.

1. Parents are required to sign a form (available in the Main Office) informing the school that their child(ren) have permission to walk or ride to school each day.
2. Students and parents who are walking or riding bikes to and from school are to use cross walks at all times. For safety reasons, students **MAY NOT** enter our campus before 7:30am.
3. Students and parents must follow the directions of crossing guards, staff, and patrols stationed along the walking route. Only cross when instructed to do so by the staff (bikes are to be walked across all driveways and along the sidewalk leading to the school from the street). **Parents with students crossing at unsupervised times cross at their own risk.**
4. At dismissal, parents are to wait at the designated area (at the edge of the school's property in front of the school at the end of the sidewalk) until the students are brought to you. All Kindergarten students must be accompanied by an older sibling or meet an adult at the designated area. No Kindergarten children will be released from campus without an older sibling or a parent/guardian present – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
5. All students riding a bike must follow Florida State Law 316.2065 while operating their bicycle to and from school. **Helmets must be worn at all times.** If the child does not come to school with his/her helmet, they will not be permitted to ride their bike home. The bike will be kept safe at school, and the child will be required to walk home until they come to school with a helmet. For specific bike rider laws/rules please go to our website at: <http://dawson.mysdhc.org>. Please be assured that ALL bikes will be kept in a secure (locked) location on campus during school hours.
6. Every student is given a yellow reflective vest with the Dawson logo. This vest is provided for FREE, and ALL students are highly encouraged to wear it for safety and identification purposes.
7. On rainy days, it is at the discretion of Administration as to whether the students will be released or held at school. In the event of severe weather (lightning, hail, tornado warnings, etc.), students **WILL** be held on campus, and parents will be contacted via ParentLink with specific information regarding release or pickup of students.

We want to emphasize the importance of student and family safety, especially with our walkers and bike riders. It is a family's responsibility to instill the importance of safety and appropriate behavior for students as they travel to and from school. While Dawson Elementary will ensure student and family safety ON our campus, we cannot control behavior and/or actions of others outside our campus. In the event of a non-emergency situation off campus, please contact the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (813)247-8200 FIRST to alert the proper authorities.

As a courtesy, the school should be made aware of the situation as well, so we can offer help or support to our school family if possible.

