

4 March 2025

To whom it may concern,

**Re: Speed limits around schools**

You may have read or heard via the media that speed limits around schools are changing.

There are two significant distinctions for our roads, the state highway is managed by Waka Kotahi / New Zealand Transport Agency, and the local roads are managed by the Council. The Council can only update speed limits on local roads within the South Taranaki district.

All the schools on our local roads are treated as 'category 1' schools. This means that 30km/h speed limits are in place and will not be increased.

However, a change you will notice is that the 30km/h speed limit will only be active from 8.15 to 9.00am and 2.45 to 3.30pm on school days. For those schools situated in our rural areas we cannot expect traffic to slow from 100km/h to 30km/h safely, so the 60km/h permanent speed restriction will remain in place.

Another key change you will notice is the scope of the speed limit zone. Speed limit zones are to be restricted to the roads outside the school gate(s) or access points, this means that roads that do not have a direct access point to the school will revert to 50km/h in urban areas, or 100km/h in rural areas. There is some flexibility in the legislation to allow for a common-sense approach. For example, if a school is situated on an intersection, it is reasonable that all parts of that intersection will be under a speed restriction. If schools are located close to one another then that whole area can be under a speed restriction.

Since the changes to the speed limit times and zones are a legislative requirement, public consultation will not be taking place and Council officers will simply implement the changes by the 1 July 2025 deadline. However, if you have any concerns or questions, please reach out and contact me on 0800 111 323 or via my e-mail [Anne.Sattler@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:Anne.Sattler@stdc.govt.nz)

Kind regards,



Anne Sattler  
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