

## **Cycle/shared path etiquette (how not to be a nuisance/danger to others)**

Cyclists are required to give way to pedestrians, which under the Queensland Road Rules is defined as slow down or stop.

Ride at an appropriate speed for the conditions. Slow down if the path is crowded and especially if there are children in the vicinity.

As a courtesy and safety measure, give other cyclists and pedestrians a friendly call before you overtake. A call of “bike” or “passing” is typically well received. You can legally use your horn or bell but this can easily be misinterpreted as “get out of my way” (or worse), because this is generally the intended message motorists give other road users via their horns.

Share paths thoughtfully with others by riding as far to the left as practical. This is particularly important if you are riding slowly.

If riding two abreast (legal to do) and another cyclist catches up to you or is passing in the opposite direction, drop back to single file so they can safely pass you.

When overtaking another path user, pass them on the right and give them the maximum width possible. Do not “undertake” by passing on the left.

If you’re going to overtake another cyclist, make sure you “have the legs” to then ride away from them. To overtake someone and be out of breath so you have to back off and then hold them up is a clear sign you don’t know how to ride.

Riding close to the rear wheel of another cyclist (wheel sucking) increases your chance of crashing and is poor etiquette without first checking with the other rider.

Always have at least one hand on the handlebars when riding towards other path users. Apart from a legal requirement, approaching others while riding “no hands” cause other people to be concerned for their safety.

Ask if assistance is required if someone seems like they might need help e.g. they appear to have a mechanical issue or have crashed. This also enhances the friendly nature of bike riding.

Aim high powered lights down so you don’t blind approaching path users.

Do not stop or park your bike on a path. Most paths are already narrow enough without creating an obstruction for other users while you’re on the phone, adjusting your derailleurs etc.

Smile and acknowledge other path users – this behaviour differentiates cyclists from road raging motorists.