



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

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### **SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS CELEBRATE 20 YEARS**

For 20 years Geoffrey Watson has dedicated his mornings and afternoons ensuring Queensland's primary school students travel safely to and from school.

Today the Member for Ipswich, Rachel Nolan, congratulated Mr Watson as one of 16 school crossing supervisors who have given thousands of young Queenslanders a safe start to their school day.

"The 16 supervisors from south-east Queensland are among 29 people who are celebrating 20 years of service this year," Ms Nolan said.

"I congratulate Mr Watson for achieving this tremendous milestone and for dedicating 20 years of ensuring children's safety travelling to and from school.

"I cannot stress enough the importance of having a school crossing supervisor extend the role of Queensland Transport's road safety programs.

"Queensland Transport's School Crossing Supervisor Scheme began in 1984, so its also celebrating 20yrs this year," Ms Nolan said.

In a special ceremony at Nashville State School in Brighton on Tuesday 27 July, Ms Nolan said Minister for Transport and Main Roads Paul Lucas, presented each of the school crossing supervisors with certificates to commemorate this milestone.

"Since 1984 there have been no serious injuries or deaths on supervised crossings which is why it's important to recognise the efforts of those who monitor them," Mr Lucas said.

"They not only help children cross streets safely, but also educate students on how to use a supervised crossing and general road safety."

Ms Nolan said there were currently 1116 supervised school crossings in Queensland, and 1764 supervisors based at 621 schools across the state.

Ms Nolan said supervised crossings were monitored as part of Queensland Transport's road safety program.

"An important part of road safety is teaching our children road rules," Ms Nolan said.

"The School Crossing Supervisor Scheme is a state-wide program under the Safe School Travel package that aims to improve travel safety for children.

"Whether you live in metropolitan, regional or remote areas or whether you walk, cycle, use buses or cars – road safety is for everyone.

"School crossing supervisors have an extremely important role in our community. Their service to the Queensland community, especially to youth, is invaluable.

"That's why the Beattie government is committed to protecting our children and enhancing safety in our communities by ensuring school crossing supervisors help fulfil this commitment."

Ms Nolan said Queensland Transport, Department of Main Roads, Education Queensland, Queensland Police Service, local authorities, parents, students and friends all shared a role in ensuring the safety of students travelling to and from school.

- A Children's Crossing is recognisable by the Children's Crossing flags on either side of the road.
- At a supervised children's crossing motorists must stop when the supervisor is standing on the kerb or traffic island with a stop sign held to face the traffic.
- If unsupervised and the flags are out, motorists must stop and wait while any pedestrian is on or waiting to cross at the crossing.
- Motorists must not move off until all pedestrians and the school crossing supervisors are safely on the footpath or traffic island.
- If a vehicle has stopped to give way to pedestrians at a crossing, do not overtake the vehicle while it is stationary.