

# SAFER SCHOOLIES GOLD COAST RESPONSE

# INFORMATION FOR THE SURFERS PARADISE COMMUNITY

18-24 November 2023

#### **IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

ISSUE/ENQUIRY	ORGANISATION	CONTACT
Emergency situations (emergencies only—fire, police or ambulance)	Emergency services hotline	Triple Zero (000)
Safer Schoolies Hotline (general enquiries and feedback)	Queensland Government	<b>13 QGOV</b> (13 74 68)
<b>Policelink</b> (non-urgent property crime, incidents or non-compliant activities)	Queensland Police Service	131 444 Policelink App
<b>Local Police</b> (non-emergency issues, public nuisance, disturbances from apartments)	Broadbeach Police Surfers Paradise Police	(07) 5581 2800 (07) 5657 6888
Red Frogs (24 hour hotline)	Red Frogs Australia	1300 557 123
Information for Businesses (rights and responsibilities, disputes with school leavers)	Office of Fair Trading	<b>13 QGOV</b> (13 74 68)
Medical/health enquiries	Queensland Health	13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84)

saferschoolies.qld.gov.au

- f @ @SchooliesGC
- **f** @SaferSchooliesforParents

13 QGOV (13 74 68)



## SAFER SCHOOLIES GOLD COAST RESPONSE

## **CHANGED TRAFFIC CONDITIONS**

Temporary road closures will be implemented to maintain the safety of pedestrians throughout the Safer Schoolies Gold Coast Response. Please note the changes in your area.

SATURDAY 18 — FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2023



#### ROAD CLOSURES TO ENSURE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Due to the temporary population increase in central Surfers Paradise, road closures are needed to ensure the safety of all pedestrians. Residents who cannot access their building during the closures will be offered alternative car parking.

Please speak with your Building Manager or contact us for further information.

Intermittent closures will take place along The Esplanade (between View Ave and Laycock St) on Friday 10 November and from Monday 13 November until Tuesday 28 November 2023.

Please note the changes in your area. All closures are at the discretion of the Queensland Police Service.

Full road closures (no vehicle access) are as listed below\*:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
Monday 13 Nov	6pm to 5am	The Esplanade (Soul building roundabout to Hanlan St)	
Saturday 18 Nov to Friday 24 Nov	5pm to 4am*	The Esplanade (Soul building roundabout to Trickett St)	
Saturday 18 Nov to Friday 24 Nov	7pm to 4am*	Orchid Ave Cavill Ave (from Surfers Paradise Blvd to Orchid Ave)	
Saturday 25 Nov	2am to 9am	The Esplanade (Soul building roundabout to Trickett St)	

<sup>\*</sup>Note: The information in this table is accurate at the time of printing but is subject to change without further notice.

All times and closures are at the discretion of the Queensland Police Service.

#### **2023 FAQs**

### Q: Does the Safer Schoolies Gold Coast Response encourage schoolies?

The Safer Schoolies Gold Coast Response is not an event or festival to attract school leavers to the Gold Coast. It is a safety response implemented to manage school leavers who choose to book their end-of-year holidays here.

Accommodation providers advise thousands of young people are booked to come to Schoolies on the Gold Coast this year.

The Schoolies Beach Hub is a proven diversion away from the streets, beaches, hotel rooms and balconies for legitimate Year 12 school leavers. In the interest of safety, gathering in a secure outdoor space, is far better than the alternative for both school leavers and the Surfers Paradise community.

#### Q: Aren't most school leavers 18 now?

No. Whilst the adjustment to the prep enrolment age has seen a decrease in the percentage of high school graduates under the age of 18, approximately 60% of 2023 school leavers remain under 18. This means, the majority of teens attending Schoolies continue to be unable to access licensed venues.



# ABOUT THE 2023 SAFER SCHOOLIES GOLD COAST RESPONSE

The 2023 Safer Schoolies Gold Coast Response will be delivered in partnership with nine Queensland Government agencies, seven community partners and the City of Gold Coast.

The safety of young people and the local community remains the highest priority.

#### The response will be operational from Saturday 18 November to Friday 24 November.

Activities conducted after Friday 24 November are not aligned with the Safer Schoolies Gold Coast Response.

The response is not a 'festival' or 'event' but is designed to manage school leavers who choose to book their end-of-year holidays on the Gold Coast. The response provides a 'diversionary activity' which encourages school leavers to celebrate with their peers in a dedicated alcohol and drug-free zone on Surfers Paradise beach.

The 2023 safety response will include:

- Schoolies Beach Hub (free nightly entertainment from 7pm-midnight in a dedicated zone on Surfers Paradise beach)
- wristbands (for identifying legitimate Year 12 school leavers and their access to Schoolies Beach Hub)
- emergency treatment centre and specialist mental health support
- nightly Recharge Zones and mobile Chill Out Zone offering space, water, assistance and first aid
- daily Schoolies Support Space (11am-4pm)
- Red Frogs in-hotel support and dedicated Red Frogs Hotline
- licensed venue compliance checks and ID checks for underage and fake IDs
- increased police presence
- street patrols and walk home services
- road closures to ensure the safety of all pedestrians.

