

MESSAGE FROM THE SAFER SCHOOLIES GOLD COAST ADVISORY GROUP

Schoolies can often be referred to as an event or a festival, but in essence, it's a holiday period when Year 12 school leavers book end of year holidays in popular tourist destinations.

The Gold Coast has been one such chosen destination for many Queensland high school graduates since the 1970s.

With thousands of school leavers celebrating in Surfers Paradise at one time, I understand the concerns regarding safety and impact to the local community, and the need to respond to this annual phenomenon.

The **Safer Schoolies Gold Coast Response** has been designed to manage the higher volume of school leavers through the delivery of a suite of integrated health and support services, drug and alcohol free diversionary activities and increased safety and security measures, whilst also encouraging school leavers to engage in safe and responsible behaviour.

I recognise and thank you for your ongoing patience and support during the Schoolies period. I would also like to acknowledge the many wonderful locals, volunteers and community partners who actively embrace Schoolies by donating their time to enhance the safety of school leavers and the local community.

Mark Reaburn,

Independent Chair, Safer Schoolies Gold Coast
Advisory Group



SUPPORTING SCHOOLIES AND THE COMMUNITY

The Queensland Government doesn't promote or encourage young people to book Schoolies holidays, but is committed to ensuring that the holiday period is as manageable, safe and respectful as possible for school leavers, local residents, businesses and the community in general.

To manage the population growth of tens of thousands of school leavers, who are predominantly underage and unsupervised, the multi-agency Safer Schoolies Gold Coast Response (Safer Schoolies Response) is implemented.

In 2019, the Safer Schoolies Response will be activated from Saturday 16 – Friday 22 November.

Delivered in partnership between the Queensland Government and City of Gold Coast, the Safer Schoolies Response sees government working with community groups in order to minimise the impact of Schoolies, and to increase the safety of both school leavers and the local community.

The Safer Schoolies Response aims to divert school leavers from high risk behavior, and encourage good choices.

Activities conducted after Friday 22 November are not aligned with the Safer Schoolies Response.

ABOUT THE SAFER SCHOOLIES GOLD COAST RESPONSE

As part of the Safer Schoolies Response, a central section of Surfers Paradise beach will be fenced nightly for the delivery of Safer Schoolies diversionary activities, exclusively accessed by genuine schoolies only.

Known as the Schoolies Hub, the drug and alcohol-free area will host free entertainment including six nights of DJ entertainment across two stages and a Chill Out Night on Tuesday 19 November.

The Schoolies Hub will run from 7pm to 12am, Saturday 16 to Friday 22 November.

To access the Schoolies Hub, schoolies must have a Safer Schoolies wristband which is issued on proof of Year 12 student photo ID.

On the ground integrated health and support services include:

- Chill Out and Recharge Zones - safe spaces for schoolies to receive free water, support and a place to regroup
- a purpose built Emergency Treatment Centre - offering medical and first-aid services
- over 1000 volunteers – walking the streets of Surfers Paradise nightly offering support, accommodation walk homes, information and a friendly face where needed.

As well as the local community, volunteers come from a range of organisations including Drug ARM Australasia, Gold Coast Youth Service, Red Frogs Australia, Rosies - Friends on the Street, State Emergency Service, Gold Coast Centre Against Sexual Violence and Volunteers in Policing.

Additionally, police, emergency services, local law, compliance officers, security, and Safer Schoolies officials maintain a highly visible presence during the Safer Schoolies Response, providing the community and visitors with additional support.

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 Elkhorn Ave and Laycock St) on Friday 08/11, and from Monday 11/11 until Tuesday 26/11.

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

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Monday 11/11	7pm to 3am	The Esplanade (Soul roundabout to Hanlan St)
Saturday 16/11 to Friday 22/11	6pm to 2am	The Esplanade (Soul roundabout to Trickett St)
Saturday 16/11 to Friday 22/11	8pm to 2am	Orchid Ave Cavill Ave (from Surfers Paradise Blvd to Orchid Ave)
Saturday 23/11	2am to 9am	The Esplanade (Soul roundabout to Trickett St)

Note: The information in this table is accurate at the time of printing but may be subject to change without further notice.

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 16 – FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2019

1 ELKHORN AVE (6pm–2am)
Local residents access via Surfers Paradise Blvd.

2 THE ESPLANADE (6pm–2am)
Access via The Esplanade from the north.

3 ORCHID AVE (8pm–2am*)
Parking will be available to Orchid Ave guests and residents at Bruce Bishop Car Park on the corner of Ferny Ave and Beach Rd.
*Under QPS discretion

ROAD CLOSED NO VEHICLE ACCESS

SCHOOLIES HUB

WHRISTBAND CENTRE

Cavill Mall

Legend:
 ★ Police
 🚏 Glink tram station
 🚧 Nightly road closure
 P Parking (24hrs)
 🚗 Local traffic only

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Visit saferschoolies.qld.gov.au or call the Safer Schoolies Hotline 13 QGOV – 13 74 68.

@SaferSchooliesforParents | @SchooliesGC