E-bikes are rapidly increasing in popularity, especially with teens as they provide increased independence. E-bikes allow children to travel further, and faster, allowing steep hills to be easily climbed.

E-Bike riders (and all cyclists) must follow the same rules as vehicles when riding on roadways.

California Vehicle Code (CVC) 21230

Is your child experienced enough to manage the increased speeds and maneuverability of a heavy E-bike?

Visit the Safe Routes Website: saferoutestoschool.org

E-BIKE SAFETY

Resources
- E-Bike Policies in Marin County
- Two-Wheel Vehicle Operation (DMV)

Safe Routes to Schools

Two-Wheel Vehicle Operation (DMV)
TYPES OF E-BIKES

Type I - 20 mph max with only pedal-assist, no throttle. These E-bikes are legal on any paved surface that a regular bike is allowed to operate.

Type II - 20 mph max, with pedal-assist and powerful front throttle function that negates the need to pedal. These are legal on any paved surface that a regular bike is allowed to operate at the posted speed.

Type III - 28 mph max, only pedal assist, no throttle. This type is a tier below true motorcycles and mopeds. Riders must be 16 years or older and wear a helmet and not transport riders. They are prohibited from multi-use paths unless otherwise specified.

Parents are advised to do their own research and assess their children's cycling capabilities before purchasing one. Below are some considerations to help parents make informed decisions.

Is your child experienced with the following?

- Taking turns with vehicles at intersections after coming to a complete stop
- Riding predictably WITH the flow of traffic and does not weave in and out of vehicles
- Riding outside of the door zone of parked vehicles (at least 3 feet away)
- Using hand signals for turning right, left and stopping, and scans before merging onto roads and changing lanes
- Obeying posted speeds on pathways and giving pedestrians the right of way
- Knowing how to stop abruptly and dodge obstacles without swerving into vehicle lanes
- Committed to wearing helmet and ensuring their passenger does as well (17 and under are required to do so by law)

A person operating a bicycle upon a highway shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto, unless the bicycle was designed by the manufacturer to be ridden without a seat.

If the passenger is four years of age or younger, or weighs 40 pounds or less, the seat shall have adequate provision for retaining the passenger in place and for protecting the passenger from the moving parts of the bicycle.

California Vehicle Code (CVC) 21204