

Avalon Public School
Pedestrian and Vehicle
Data Collection Survey

Joel Seaton (PD/H/PE Teacher) and Student Leaders

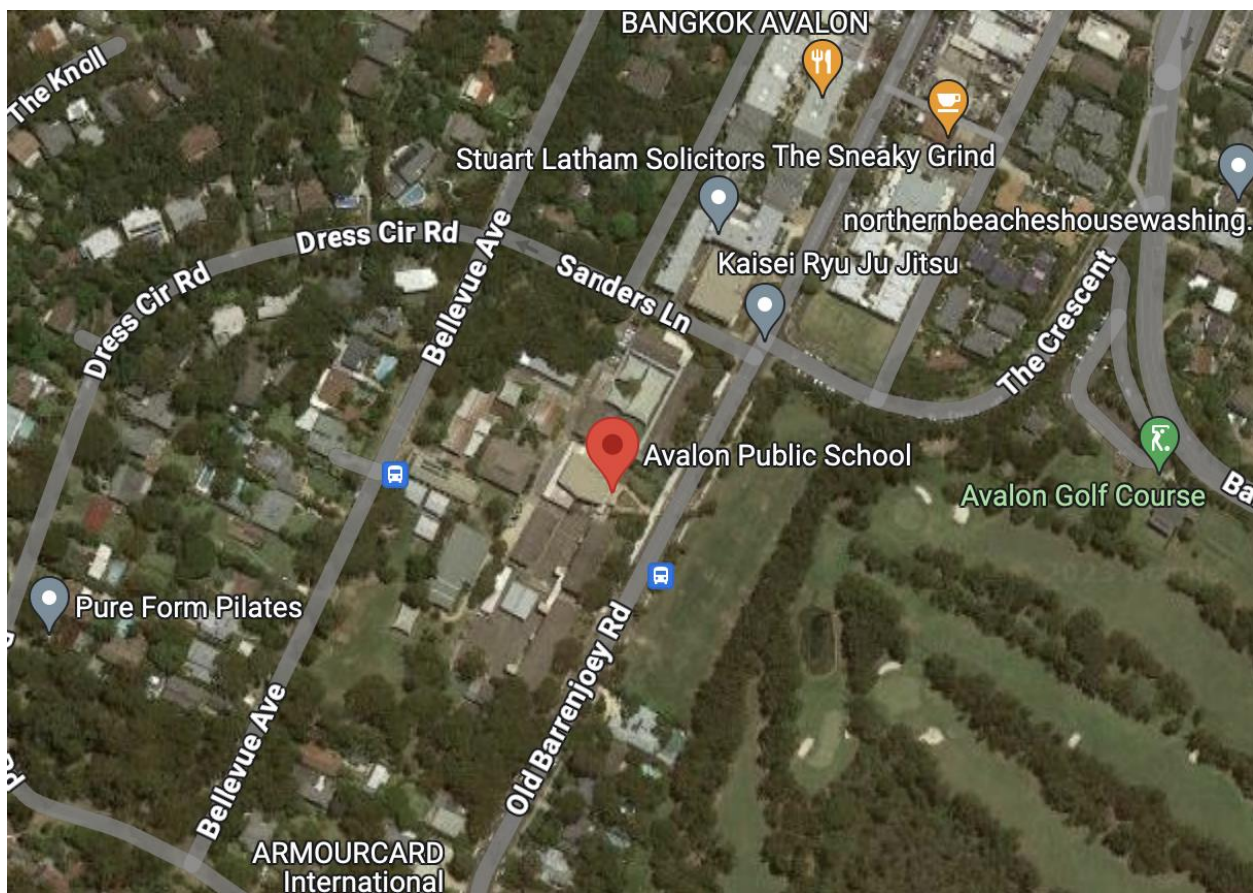
2023

Avalon Public School

Pedestrian and Vehicle Data Collection Survey

Introduction

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Survey purpose, definitions and parameters.

The initial aim of this survey was to provide Avalon Public School with a real time insight into the daily pedestrian movements completed by students, families and community members across roads opposite and adjacent to the Avalon Public School site.

Walking to school is actively promoted to students by Avalon Public School and through PD/H/PE lessons to promote a healthy, active lifestyle and encourage sustainability. The school participates in National Walk Safely to School Day.

The survey was conducted over two 5 day periods. Both weeks recorded were from Monday - Friday. The pedestrian survey commenced on Monday, 21st August 2023 and concluded on Friday 25th August 2023. This survey focused on pedestrians crossing Sanders Lane (at any point along the lane) and The Crescent, parallel to Old Barrenjoey Road only.

The vehicle movement data commenced on Monday, 4th September 2023 and concluded on Friday 8th September 2023.

All morning data recording commenced at 8:55am and concluded at 9:25am (school bell time).

Afternoon data collection commenced at 3:15pm (ten minutes before the concluding school bell time of 3:25pm) and concluded at 3:45pm. Daily data is therefore two 30 minute windows at the peak morning and afternoon times.

This data collection survey was conducted to research several objectives utilising the following definitions and parameters as outlined below.

1. A daily morning and afternoon pedestrian movement count. One individual crossing a road in one direction is counted as one movement.
2. A daily morning and afternoon vehicle movement count. One vehicle transiting a road in one direction is recorded as one movement.
3. Variables and Observations: incidents, near incidents, anomalies, and variables were also recorded daily in both sessions.
4. The daily weather conditions

Road and vehicle specifics and pedestrian movements.

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From school records and local knowledge, we can establish the vast majority of the student population lives to the north of the school. Whilst Old Barrenjoey Road does have a pedestrian crossing and a School Crossing Supervisor on duty to assist with the safe crossing of this roadway from 8:55am to 9:30am before school, and from 3:25pm - 3:45pm after school, it was observed during the survey that students utilising this crossing service are primarily from car transportations, arriving for drop off on the eastern side of Old Barrenjoey Road.

The overwhelming majority of pedestrians commuting to school transit to the school site on the western footpath of Barrenjoey Road and cross Sanders Lane to access the two school gates on Sanders Lane (Bike Gate entrance and Car Park Entrance) and the Old Barrenjoey Road main entrance (marked with a flagpole).

Not all students arriving to the school Bike Gate Entrance dismount their bicycles to cross Sanders Lane.

At present, Sanders Lane has extensive pedestrian safety barriers installed, exists within the 40km/h school zone (daily from 8:00am- 9:30am and 2:30pm - 4:00pm) but has no pedestrian marked crossing.

Whilst this road is a designated one way street, it has vehicles turning both left and right from Old Barrenjoey Road onto it, as well as vehicles transiting from The Crescent. Vehicles also turn on to Sanders Lane from Wickham Lane, and off Sanders Lane on to Wickham Lane.

Whilst the 40km school zone exists, vehicles tend to accelerate significantly to travel up the incline of Sanders Lane.

By 8:55am the majority of car spaces are filled along Sanders Lane. This has a significant effect on the visibility of pedestrians and cyclists entering the Sanders Lane Bike Gate entrance, and the visibility of motorists when students and families are exiting the school after 3:25pm.

The top of Sanders Lane features a hill-start stop sign for vehicles turning either left or right on to Bellevue Lane.

During the vehicle observation time frame, vehicles recorded transiting Sanders Lane included cars, school buses, motorcycles, garbage trucks, Light Rigid and Medium Rigid trucks.

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Methodology

Once parental permission was obtained for student participation, a roster was created and student leaders nominated a minimum of two shifts per week to accompany Mr Seaton on the corner of Old Barrenjoey Road and Sanders Lane. Tally counter clickers were utilised to enable rapid data collection and improve accuracy. In the pedestrian data collection there were a minimum of 3 people per shift, with one tasked to data collection of pedestrians crossing The Crescent and two tasked to count pedestrians crossing Sanders Lane. All observations were made behind the pedestrian safety barrier. Results were recorded after each session and participants

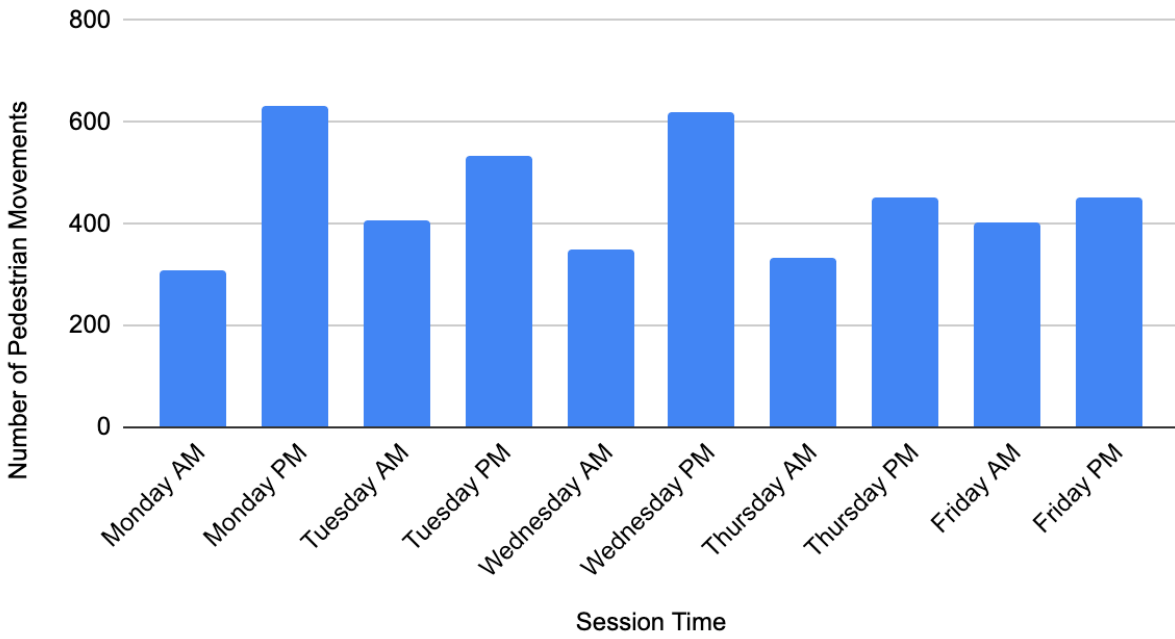


Results

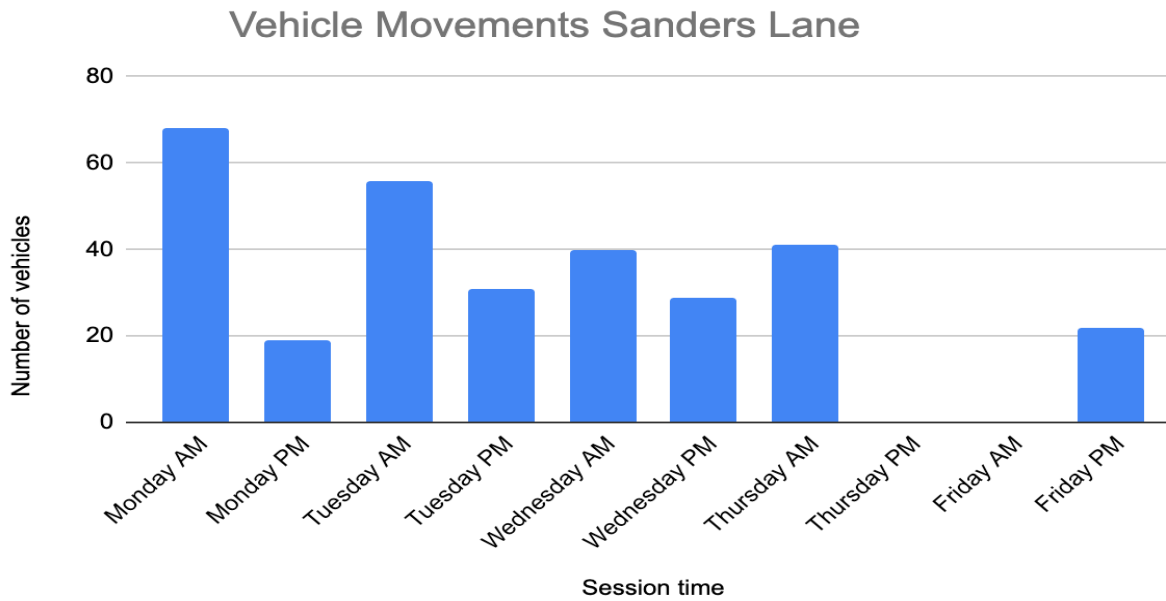
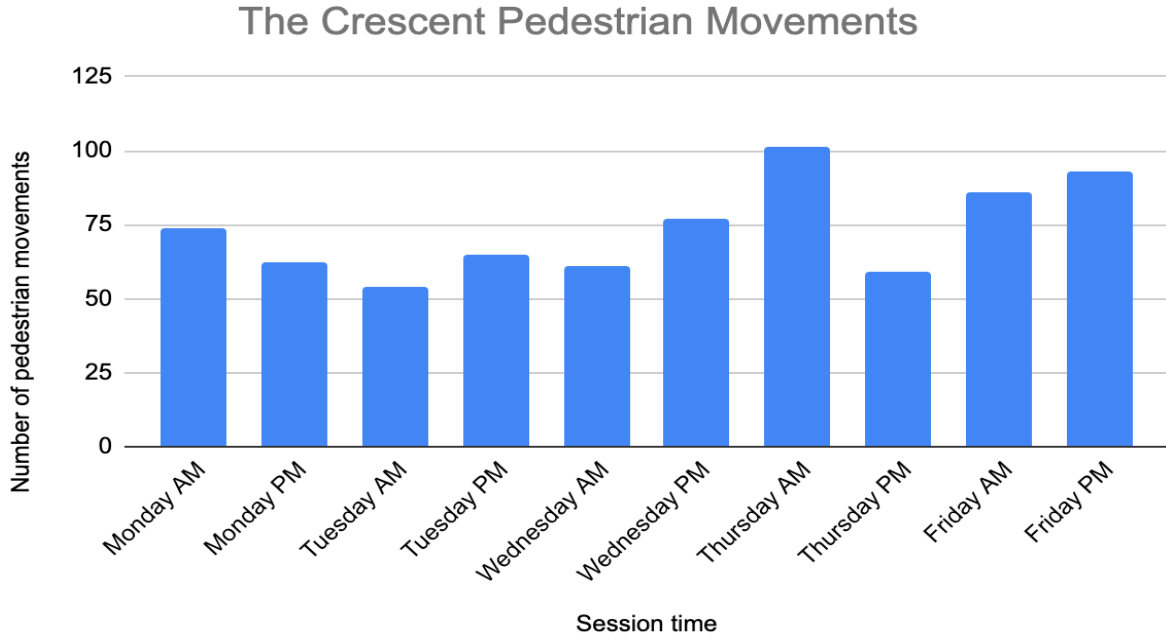
Over the one week long duration of data collection, we observed a total of 4490 pedestrian movements across Sanders Lane, 732 pedestrian movements across The Crescent and 306 vehicle movements along Sanders Lane. One morning of vehicle movement recording was not completed due to heavy rain. One afternoon of vehicle movement was not recorded due to the school expo day. Based on previous day averages where both sessions were recorded, a projected total of 405 weekly vehicle movements along Sanders can be estimated in the specified time frames.

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Sanders Lane Pedestrian Movements



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Additional Observations

Throughout the weeks of recording data, the teams observed the following incidents:

Date	Incident
Monday 21.8.23	Garbage truck nearly crashed into a car that pulled out of a parking spot on Sanders Lane
Monday 21.8.23	Two separate incidents with cars turning into Sanders Lane braking suddenly to miss pedestrians (one parent, one student).
Tuesday 22.8.23	Incidents of road rage. Book week, high volume of concentrated vehicle traffic
Thursday 24.8.23	Student ran across Sanders Lane. Vehicle braked suddenly. Very close to collision.
Friday 25.8.23	Student almost hit by car.
Monday 4.9.23	MR truck drove wrong way down Sanders Lane at speed in excess of 40km/h

