



Dale Last MP
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Media Release – Fears school run a safety gamble in Clermont

Member for Burdekin Dale Last says fears it will take a devastating accident for the state government to properly fund safety upgrades and a supervised school crossing at Clermont State School.

Mr Last said the issue of getting children to school safely at Clermont State School was brought to the Minister’s attention almost a year ago, and while there were some promising signs safety would be improved, it seems to have been shoved aside as quickly as it was brought on.

“In April last year TMR committed to additional line marking and signage for the Clermont State School drop off zone, turn the page to 2022 and now we are hearing the commitment was dependant on a funding program that has since dried up,” Mr Last said.

“While it’s easy to accept that Clermont certainly does not have the traffic of a south-east city, the reality is a state government-funded assessment has deemed there is a need for safety upgrades in that area.”

Mr Last said even if the School Transport Infrastructure Program had ended, more needed to be done to ensure safety concerns were addressed at Clermont State School, before a tragedy occurred.

“The ability for a child to get to school safely, no matter where they live, should not qualify for an excuse of funding running out,” Mr Last said.

“The program is not the only funding opportunity this government has to make access to the Clermont State School safer, there are plenty of others.

“It beggars believe that the Minister is willing to gamble with the lives of kids in the bush, simply because one funding program has dried up.”

“This is another example of this state Labor government turning a blind eye to Queenslanders living outside the south-east corner.”

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