

Schoolies Festival

Friday 20 to Sunday 22 November 2026

The Schoolies Festival™ on Warland Reserve is part of a management response to minimise the impact of school leaver celebrations on the local community. The centralised entertainment area on Warland Reserve encourages school leavers to celebrate in positive and safe ways.

The Festival features nightly entertainment over three evenings in a designated alcohol and drug-free zone at Warland Reserve. This is a fully ticketed event, and exclusively for school leavers.

The Schoolies Management Response is facilitated by the charity Encounter Youth in partnership with the City of Victor Harbor along with SA Health, SA Police, Alexandrina Council, Metropolitan Fire Service, SA Ambulance, St John Ambulance SA, local businesses and community members.

Road Closures

Road closures will be in place each night from Friday 20 to Sunday 22 November to ensure pedestrian safety. Affected residents and businesses will be notified in advance and assisted with access and parking arrangements.

Closures are subject to change at the discretion of SA Police. SAPOL has approved 25 kph speed limits and temporary parking controls in association with road closures to support a safe event.

Nightly Road Closures

Friday 20 to Monday 23 November 2026

- Flinders Parade (Coral Street to Esplanade)
- The Esplanade (Flinders Parade to King Street)

Nightly from 5pm to 2am

- Albert Place (Esplanade to Railway Tce)
- Railway Terrace (Albert Place to Coral Street)
- Crozier Road (Stuart Street to Victoria Street)

Nightly from 6pm to 2am

- Ocean Street (Coral Street to Albert Place)

Nightly from 9pm to 2am



Full-size map at the end of the document.

Temporary Parking Controls

Temporary parking controls will be implemented nightly along the **Esplanade** and **Flinders Parade** as per the map below to accommodate event shuttle bus services during the event.

To provide parking opportunities for visitors to Victor Harbor and Granite Island, temporary parking restrictions will be lifted on the **Granite Island** side of Flinders Parade and The Esplanade between **2am to 5pm** daily as below.



Full-size map at the end of the document.

Granite Island Access

National Parks will close **Granite Island** nightly from **7pm to 6am** over the Schoolies weekend. Visitors will have one hour to leave before dusk, with security services available to assist.

Noise Management

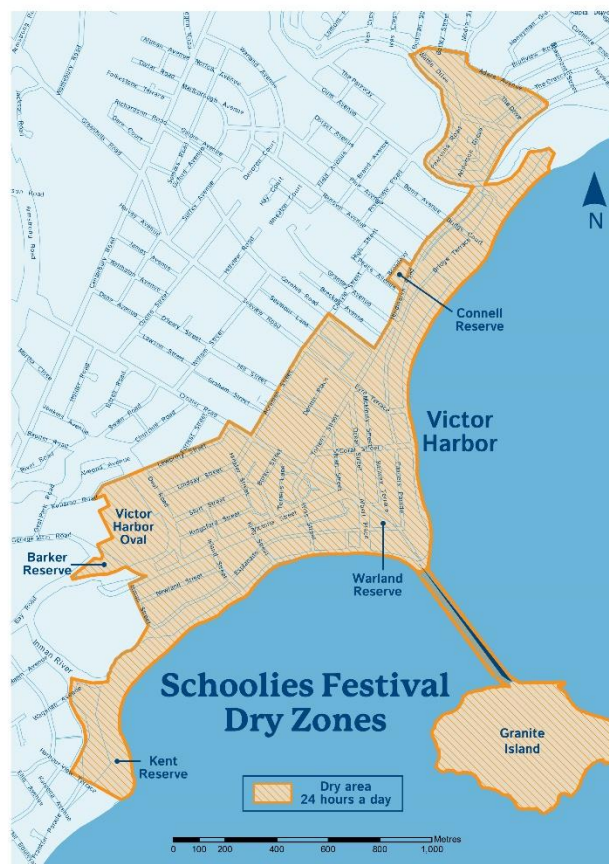
Amplified music will be scheduled at Warland Reserve on Friday and Saturday from 7pm to 1am, and on Sunday from 3pm to 11pm. Sound levels will be actively monitored throughout the event, with noise monitoring equipment positioned at multiple locations around the site. Adjustments will be made as required.

Security

Professional security has been contracted to support the Warland Reserve event.

Dry Zone

The Schoolies Festival™ is alcohol and drug-free, with **Victor Harbor town centre a 24-hour dry zone from 8am Monday, 16 November to 10am Monday 23 November 2026**. The ban covers all public areas, footpaths, Granite Island, and the Causeway.



Full-size map at the end of the document.

South Coast Hospital

During the Schoolies Festival™, a Centralised Event Medical Centre, managed by St John Ambulance on behalf of SA Ambulance Service, provides emergency care and transfers to Flinders Hospital for school leavers. This keeps **South Coast Hospital available for the local community**, preventing festival-related strain on resources.

Schoolies Management Response

The Schoolies Management Response is **facilitated by the charity Encounter Youth in partnership with the City of Victor Harbor** along with SA Health, SA Police, Alexandrina Council, Metropolitan Fire Service, SA Ambulance, St John Ambulance SA, local businesses and community members.

The 2026 Schoolies response will include:

Schoolies Festival™: Nightly entertainment from 7pm to 1am on Friday and Saturday, and from 3pm to 11pm on Sunday, in a drug and alcohol-free event at Warland Reserve, run by Encounter Youth.

Partner Accommodation Providers: Offering Schoolies Festival™ tickets bundled with accommodation to encourage attendance at the drug and alcohol-free event at Warland Reserve.

Wristbands: Used to identify Year 12 school leavers for access to the festival and partner accommodation, managed by Encounter Youth.

Schoolies Festival™ Bus Service: A free bus service between Goolwa and Victor Harbor, running 7pm to 1:30am during the festival, funded by the State Government and managed by Encounter Youth.

Encounter Youth Green Team Volunteers: Over 350 volunteers support school leavers in accommodation, bus services, at the festival and surrounding streets.

Event Medical Centre: Provides emergency treatment and directs serious cases to Flinders Hospital, supported by SA Ambulance and St John Ambulance.

In-Accommodation Medical Support: First aid services at partner accommodations, managed by St John Ambulance.

Police Presence: Increased police presence to ensure participant safety, funded by SA Police.

Dry Zone: A town centre dry zone to reduce alcohol-related incidents, enforced by SA Police.

Road Closures: Implemented to ensure pedestrian safety, managed by the City of Victor Harbor.

Local Business Promotion: The City of Victor Harbor and Business Victor Harbor are promoting local businesses during the Schoolies Festival™ to encourage both locals and visitors to return to the town centre, highlighting that the event is well-managed and businesses remain open as usual. Local businesses with products or services that may be useful for the Festival or appeal to attendees are encouraged to reach out directly to Encounter Youth to explore potential opportunities for collaboration.

Important Contacts

Issue/Enquiry	Organisation	Contact
Emergency Situations (fire, police, ambulance):	Emergency services hotline	Triple zero (000)
Non-urgent police assistance (non-urgent property crime, incidents, or suspicious activities)	SA Police	131 444 (24/7)
Local Police (public nuisance, disturbance from neighbouring property)	Victor Harbor Police	8552 2088
South Coast Emergency Department Service	Southern Fleurieu Health Service	8552 0500 (24/7)
Road closure and traffic management	City of Victor Harbor	8551 0500
Schoolies Festival™ partner accommodation, ticketing, and parent enquiries. Festival site noise concerns.	Encounter Youth	8179 0300

SCHOOLIES FESTIVAL FAQ

Q: Does the Schoolies Festival encourage schoolies to attend?

The festival is designed to manage school leavers in a safe environment who have already chosen to celebrate their end of schooling in Victor Harbor.

Q: Who organises the Schoolies Festival?

The Schoolies Festival™ is managed by a South Australian not-for-profit charity Encounter Youth. They formed to manage and develop the community of Victor Harbor's vision to manage the influx of Schoolies by running a Schoolies Festival in 1999. Encounter Youth work year-round to advocate for and facilitate the many government and community services to ensure a safe and enjoyable event for school leavers. They work in partnership with the City of Victor Harbor, emergency services and other stakeholders.

Q: Who are the Encounter Youth Green Team, and what do they do?

The Encounter Youth Green Team consists of over 350 volunteers that provide support to school leavers in almost every area. They help run the festival and assist with event safety by supporting festival goers. They also provide support in all partner accommodation parks, on every bus, creating a positive and safe environment. They all come from Christian Churches across South Australia and are easily recognised by their bright green shirts.

Q: Who is Encounter Youth?

Encounter Youth is a registered health promotion charity that manages the Schoolies Festival™. In addition to organising the festival and leading the Schoolies Management Response, they also train and mobilise volunteers to support vulnerable young people on Hindley Street every Saturday night.

Additionally, Encounter Youth is the largest provider of Alcohol and Other Drug Education for South Australian secondary students, educating over 30,000 young people, parents, and teachers annually.

Q: What measures are in place to protect the community?

To protect the community during the Schoolies Festival™, a range of measures are implemented, including increased police presence, road closures, and a Centralised Event Medical Centre. The Encounter Youth Green Team volunteers provide support to festival-goers, while collaboration with emergency services ensures public safety. Local hospitals remain accessible to residents, and community impact is carefully managed.

Q: Who do I speak to about accessing my business or residence during road closures?

For access inquiries during road closures, please contact the City of Victor Harbor Council. We can provide specific details and assist with access arrangements for affected businesses and residents.

Further Information

City of Victor Harbor

For information on road closures, business and resident access, dry zones, and parking

Phone: 8551 0500

Email: events@victor.sa.gov.au

www.victor.sa.gov.au/roadclosures

Encounter Youth

For information on community working group meetings, partner accommodation, ticketing or parent enquiries.

Phone: 8179 0300

schooliesfestival@encounteryouth.com.au

www.schooliesfestival.com.au

www.facebook.com/schooliesfestivalau



city of
Victor Harbor



Schoolies road safety

5pm to 2am nightly

-  Road closed
-  Right turn only
-  No parking
-  Safety barrier/
Restricted vehicle
access
-  Pedestrian access
-  Granite Island and
Causeway closed
7pm - 6am nightly
-  First aid

Esplanade/Flinders Parade

Restricted road closure
5pm - 2am

One-way access for shuttle
bus, emergency services and
permitted businesses only.

Railway Terrace, Albert Place and Crozier Road

Road closed - no vehicle access
6pm - 2am

Ocean Street

Road closed - no vehicle access
9pm - 2am



For information on road closures, business and resident access, dry zones, and parking contact:

City of Victor Harbor

Phone: 8551 0500 events@victor.sa.gov.au

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city of
Victor Harbor



Schoolies road safety

2am to 5pm daily

-  Pedestrian access
-  No parking
-  Granite Island and
causeway open
6am - 7pm daily

All roads open
from 2am to 5pm daily



For information on road closures, business and resident access, dry zones, and parking contact:

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 www.victor.sa.gov.au

 8551 0500

VICTOR
HARBOR

**The consumption of alcohol will be prohibited
24/7 from 8am on Monday 16 November
to 10am on Monday 23 November 2026**

