

Section 1:

#1 (Opening paragraph: "Haven't you seen the death rates... long overdue.")

Strengths: Your opening grabs attention with a compelling rhetorical question and clearly states your main argument. You establish the importance of the topic right away.

Weakness: Abrupt Introduction → Your piece jumps straight into statistics without giving readers proper context. The phrase "Haven't you seen the death rates of pedestrians at night time?" assumes readers already know specific data, but you don't provide any actual numbers or sources. This makes it difficult for readers to understand exactly what problem you're addressing.

Exemplar: *"Recent statistics show that pedestrian accidents increase by 40% during evening hours when children travel to and from school activities."*

#2 (Point 2: "Children, especially those at elementary... vital for their safety.")

Strengths: You effectively explain why children are particularly vulnerable road users. Your writing shows good understanding of child development and safety concerns.

Weakness: Vague Supporting Details → Whilst you mention that children "might misjudge the speed of oncoming cars," you don't provide specific examples of how this happens or what makes flashing lights particularly effective for this age group. The phrase "children often don't have the experience" could be much more detailed to help readers understand exactly what experiences children lack.

Exemplar: *"For instance, children under ten often cannot accurately judge whether a car travelling at 50 km/h will reach them before they cross the road."*

#3 (Point 4: "Flashing pedestrian signals have already been... every day.")

Strengths: You use evidence from other locations to support your argument. The specific statistic of "30% reduction in traffic incidents" adds credibility to your proposal.

Weakness: Insufficient Evidence Detail → Your evidence lacks specificity about which cities, what time periods were studied, or what types of incidents were reduced. The phrase "some cities" and "numerous other school zones" are too general to be convincing. Readers need more concrete information to trust your claims.

Exemplar: *"In Brisbane and Melbourne, schools that installed flashing pedestrian signals in 2019 recorded a 30% decrease in near-miss incidents during the first year of operation."*

■ Your piece presents a well-structured argument for installing pedestrian crossings with flashing lights near schools. You've organised your ideas logically and covered important safety concerns that parents and community members would care about. However, your writing would be much stronger with more specific details and concrete examples. Instead of saying "death rates" or "numerous cities," try to include actual numbers and name specific places where possible. Additionally, your introduction could benefit from a gentler lead-in that provides context before jumping into statistics. Also, consider adding a paragraph about how the community could fund this project or what steps need to happen next. Furthermore, you could strengthen your argument by addressing potential concerns people might have, such as cost or installation time. Your conclusion effectively summarises your main points, but it could be more powerful with a specific call to action telling readers exactly what they should do next.

Overall Score: 44/50

Section 2:

Haven't you seen the death rates of pedestrians at nighttime? The safety of children should always be a top priority, and one of the most effective ways to ensure their protection as they travel to and from school is by providing safe pedestrian crossings. Adding a pedestrian crossing with a flashing light next to a school could significantly reduce the risks posed by busy streets, particularly in areas with heavy traffic. Here are several compelling reasons why this addition is not only necessary but long overdue. #1

1. Enhanced Visibility for Drivers and Pedestrians Pedestrian crossings with flashing lights increase visibility, making it clear to drivers that they are approaching an area where children might be crossing. With flashing lights, even in the most distracted or busy traffic conditions, drivers are more likely to slow down and be alert to potential hazards. For children, the flashing lights act as a clear signal to cross only when it's safe, reducing the chances of accidents caused by confusion or inattention.
2. Protecting Vulnerable Children #2 Children, especially those at elementary or middle school age, are less likely to fully understand the dangers of traffic. They might misjudge the speed of oncoming cars or fail to notice vehicles that are too close. A flashing light ensures that drivers

are more aware of the school zone, giving children a better opportunity to cross the road safely. In addition, children often don't have the experience to predict or react to dangerous situations, which makes proactive measures, like a flashing pedestrian signal, vital for their safety.

3. ~~Increased~~**[Enhanced]** Traffic Awareness Many accidents occur when drivers are unaware of their surroundings, especially in school zones where students may be crossing the road before or after school hours. Adding a flashing light system makes the school zone more visible and serves as a constant reminder to drivers that they need to be cautious in these high-traffic, high-risk areas. The more visible and noticeable these systems are, the less likely it is that accidents will occur. ~~It promotes~~**[This approach fosters]** a culture of heightened awareness, making the area safer for not only students but for everyone travelling through the neighbourhood.
4. Demonstrated Success in Other Areas **#3** Flashing pedestrian signals have already been successfully implemented in numerous other school zones across the country, with impressive results. Studies have shown that these signals reduce traffic speeds and accidents, particularly in areas where children regularly cross the street. For example, in some cities, schools that added flashing lights saw a 30% reduction in traffic incidents near their crossings. This proven success should encourage us to take similar steps in our own community to protect the children who rely on these routes every day.
5. A Small Investment for Big Benefits Implementing a pedestrian crossing with a flashing light is a relatively small investment compared to the potential costs of a pedestrian accident, both in terms of human lives and financial burdens. The installation process is not only straightforward but also cost-effective, especially when weighed against the potential for saving lives. The peace of mind it provides to parents, teachers, and students alike is invaluable.

Conclusion The addition of a pedestrian crossing with a flashing light next to a school is not just an option—it's a necessity. It's a simple but highly effective measure that can make a significant difference in the safety of our children. We have a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, and implementing this crossing ensures that we take every possible step to safeguard their well-being. Let's make the right choice for our children and act now to install this essential safety feature.