

Section 1:

#1 (Opening paragraph): "How many near misses will it take before we finally protect our students? Hundreds of children walk along the congested road outside our school each day, their lives in danger just to arrive on time for class."

Strengths: Your opening grabs attention with a compelling rhetorical question and creates urgency by describing the daily danger students face.

Weakness: Vague supporting details → Your writing mentions "hundreds of children" and "congested road" but doesn't provide specific details about what makes this road particularly dangerous. What time of day is most hazardous? How fast do cars typically travel? Adding concrete details would make your argument more convincing.

Exemplar: *"Between 8:15 and 8:45 AM, over 200 students navigate Maple Street where cars frequently exceed the 40km/h speed limit by 20km/h."*

#2 (Third paragraph): "Only last month, Emma, a Year 7 student, had a terrifying close shave when a motorcar whizzed by the school gate with her in it and was not seen."

Strengths: Your use of Emma's personal story makes the issue feel real and relatable to readers.

Weakness: Confusing sentence structure → The phrase "with her in it and was not seen" is unclear and grammatically awkward. Readers can't easily understand what happened to Emma or who wasn't seen.

Exemplar: *"Only last month, Emma, a Year 7 student, nearly collided with a speeding car that failed to notice her crossing near the school gate."*

#3 (Final paragraph): "A pedestrian crossing with flashing lights is not a luxury—it is a necessity. It will reduce the risk of injury, create safer routes for our children, and offer peace of mind to families and staff alike."

Strengths: Your conclusion restates the main argument clearly and lists multiple benefits of the proposed solution.

Weakness: Repetitive language patterns → Your writing uses similar sentence structures throughout, particularly starting sentences with "It will" or "It would." This creates a monotonous rhythm that reduces impact.

Exemplar: *"Installing flashing lights will reduce injury risk whilst providing families and staff with greater peace of mind about student safety."*

■ Your piece tackles an important community issue and shows genuine concern for student safety. The personal story about Emma helps readers connect emotionally with your argument, and your statistics about accident reduction provide credible evidence. However, your writing could benefit from more specific details about the current situation. Instead of saying "congested road," describe exactly when and how the congestion occurs. Additionally, your sentences often follow similar patterns, which makes your writing feel repetitive. Try varying your sentence beginnings and lengths to create better flow. Also, some of your explanations need clearer connections between ideas—help readers follow your logic more easily. Consider organising your strongest points first, then building support around them. Your passion for this issue comes through clearly, but strengthening these areas will make your argument even more persuasive and engaging for school leaders and community members.

Overall Score: 44/50

Section 2:

How many near misses will it take before we finally protect our students? Hundreds of children walk along the congested road outside our school each day, their lives in danger just to arrive on time for class. Speeding ~~autos~~ [cars] and the absence of a defined crossing point ~~create this road a recipe~~ [make this road a recipe] for disaster. We must install a pedestrian crossing with flashing lights so that everyone can cross safely. It's a small change that will save lives. #1

School crossing safety is an all-too-real problem that can affect hundreds of students daily. Traffic is heavy during rush hour, and the majority of drivers are unaware of the school zone or don't even take the time to check their speed limit. The National Safety Council estimates that over 25,000 kids are injured each year in or around school zones. That's not a ~~figure—it's~~ [statistic—it represents a genuine] threat. These are actual kids, actual families, and actual danger. Installing a pedestrian crossing would

bring traffic to an immediate halt, make the students ~~stand out more~~ [more visible to drivers], and give drivers a ~~straightforward~~ [clear] reason to stop.

~~Only last month, Emma, a Year 7 student, had a terrifying close shave when a motorcar whizzed by the school gate with her in it and was not seen.~~ [Just last month, Emma, a Year 7 student, experienced a terrifying near-miss when a speeding car failed to notice her crossing near the school gate.] #2 She was shocked, ~~so were~~ [as were] her parents, ~~now~~ [who now] escort her across the road each day. But not every family can do the same. Do we have to wait until there is a disaster before we act? A ~~flash~~ [flashing] pedestrian crossing would be a safety net—~~such as~~ [like] seatbelts in a car or helmets when cycling. It's not ~~merely~~ [simply] a good thing—it's the right thing.

~~Putting in~~ [Installing] a flashing crossing isn't an emotional ~~move~~ [decision]—it's a ~~move~~ [decision based] ~~of~~ [on] logic and responsibility. ~~There are statistics which demonstrate~~ [Statistics show that] flashing crossings reduce accident numbers by 40%. That's a ~~big boost~~ [significant improvement] for a small change. As a school and community, we owe a duty of care. In the words of one mum, "We teach our kids to look both ways—but what if the cars don't look at all?" This is not a problem of policy—it's a problem of people.

Some will argue that the road is already marked as a school zone, and that's enough. But obviously, it isn't. If drivers aren't slowing down, then something in the system is failing. A pedestrian crossing with ~~flashers~~ [flashing lights] is a fair, considerate request that gives students an extra measure of safety without having a huge impact on traffic. Actually, it would likely improve traffic flow by encouraging people to cross at a predictable time in a predictable location.

A pedestrian crossing with flashing lights is not a luxury—it is a necessity. It will reduce the risk of injury, create safer routes for our children, and offer peace of mind to families and staff alike. #3 The evidence is clear. The stories are real. And the solution is simple. Let's ~~not~~ [not] wait for a serious accident to take action. Join us ~~demanding~~ [in demanding] the installation of a flashing pedestrian crossing before the start of next term. Safe. Sensible. Secure. That's what they deserve.