

Tuesday, 16th March 2004.

**Parents can assist with Daniel Morcombe case  
Blue car seen parked near local school, say witnesses**

THE blue car linked to the abduction of Palwoods teenager Daniel Morcombe may be the same vehicle seen parked near a local school in the months before his December disappearance.

Two witnesses have told police they each saw an early model blue sedan parked in the vicinity of Woombye State School before Daniel was abducted on Sunday, December 7, from the nearby Kiel Mountain Road overpass.

Detective Inspector John Maloney was yesterday reluctant to say the car's occupants had been "staking out" the area with the intention of abducting a child but said this was a potential scenario police were investigating.

"Well, it's a possibility ... and that is why we need to identify the vehicle and eliminate it from the investigation," Det Insp Maloney said.

He said investigations of the car at the centre of Daniel's abduction had dominated police resources that could otherwise be channelled into other aspects of the investigation.

"We need to find (the car), identify it and we need to find out why it was here." Police today will wrap up a mammoth four-day doorknock of hundreds of Woombye homes. Det Insp Maloney hoped that would bring fresh information from residents who remembered seeing the blue car.

A mobile information booth was also set up yesterday on Pine Grove Road, about 200 m from the Woombye school.

"There may well be someone out there who has seen this car and was suspicious of it, parents are generally very wary (about cars near schools), and maybe someone has jotted down a registration number," Det Insp Maloney said.

Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000