

STUDENT DRIVING POLICY

RATIONALE:

The College is aware that a number of senior students intend to drive to school either occasionally or on a regular basis.

While most young drivers try to be careful, safety conscious and considerate when driving, it is important to recognise that despite a decline in the number of road deaths in Victoria since 1990:

- road casualty deaths remain the biggest killer of people aged 15-25
- in their first year of driving, young people are about three times more likely to be killed or injured than older, more experienced drivers
- Young drivers aged 18 - 25 comprise over 21% of all driver fatalities despite representing only 13% of the population.

Relative to older driver's young drivers:

- are inexperienced
- more likely to take risks
- The research shows that the main safety issues for young and new drivers are:
- inexperience
- youth and being young
- dealing with challenging driving conditions - including late night driving and multiple passengers
- driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- driving while fatigued
- mobile phone use • disobeying road rules, particularly speeding, tailgating and failing to give way.

The reality is:

- In their first year of solo driving, young people are about thirty times more likely to be killed or injured than when they are Learners.
- Many young drivers rationalise their risk-taking by talking down or avoiding talking about the possible outcomes, and blaming outside factors for their driving indiscretions.

It is important, therefore, that all members of the College community are aware of the College policy relating to students driving to school so that it can exercise its duty of care and enhance student safety.

AIMS:

The purpose of this policy is to enhance student safety by carefully monitoring students who drive to and from school and to establish systems to ensure that students driving and travelling as passengers in cars do so with parental knowledge and approval and that they do this within DET guidelines.

IMPLEMENTATION:

School Requirements

1. Students are required to adhere to all road rules and drive in a safe and responsible manner.
2. Students are only to use their car for travelling to and from school. Students are not permitted under any circumstances to drive from the school grounds during the day.
3. Student licence details and car make and registration must be recorded with the school. The Office will maintain a database of student drivers.
4. Students may only park in the designated student parking area; Green Hills Reserve.
5. Students are not permitted to carry other students as passengers to and from school without the written permission of their parent/guardian and the passenger's parent/guardian. The school has a policy that, no more than one peer aged passenger should travel with the driver, in line with Graduated Licensing System (GLS) peer passenger restrictions. The GLS condition requires all P1 drivers to carry no more than one peer passengers (aged 16-22 years). Peers do not include siblings. This condition does not apply when a fully licensed driver is sitting in the front passenger seat.

6. Students are required to notify the school of any passenger who may be travelling with them to and from school.
 - a. Siblings traveling to a from school in a car with a P plate drive should be registered with the office
 - b. (Appendix B)
7. Student drivers, a parent/guardian and, if relevant, the parent/guardian of any passenger, must sign the Parent permission and Student Agreement Form. Appropriate sanctions will apply where students fail to meet these obligations.
8. Students are not permitted under any circumstances to transport other students in private vehicles in connection with any school program, excursions or functions, whether held during normal school hours or at other times. (DET Schools Reference Guide 4.4.2.10) In exceptional circumstances, a student may drive to a College function or program with parental and College permission. In this case written approval must be provided by the parent and countersigned by the College Administration.



1. Any unsafe driving behaviour or breaches of road rules will be reported to the police.

In addition to the above road safety procedures

- Students are not permitted to go to their car during the school day, including recess, lunchtime or during study periods.
- If these requirements are disregarded, parents will be notified and appropriate consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct will apply.
- If the College becomes aware that a student has broken road rules in their commute to school, or a vehicle is unroadworthy, or has been driven in an unsafe or irresponsible manner, police and parents will be notified.
- To ensure that drivers, passengers and parents are aware of the College policy and requirements in relation to student drivers, the policy and requirements will be publicised in the College Website, at year level meetings, in the Yr 12 Common Room.

Links:

Student Driver Policy Guidelines:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/principals/spag/safety/studentdrivingguidelines.pdf>

Date of next review: 02/2021

This policy was ratified by the Wallan Secondary College Council on

18/02/2020

Wallan Secondary College is committed to the protection and wellbeing of all students whilst participating in school activities both during and outside school hours. Staff have responsibility for building and maintaining a child safe environment. This responsibility extends to the identification and timely response to all concerns with regard the safety of any student of our College.

Students driving cars to school:

Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form

This form must be completed by any student who intends to drive to school either occasionally or regularly.

Name:	
Licence No.	
Vehicle Make/Model :	
Colour :	Registration Number:

* If completing this form to seek approve for travel in another students car, still record the details above.

If the student intends to drive any car other than the one registered on this form, it must also be registered with the school.

Parent Permission

I give permission for _____ to drive to school and take the passenger indicated on this form. I am aware of Victoria's Graduated Licensing System conditions and the school requirements regarding students driving to school.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian of Passenger

I give permission for _____ to be driven to and from school by _____ .I am aware of Victoria's Graduated Licensing System conditions and the school requirements regarding students driving to school.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____ Student I agree to adhere to

Student

I agree to adhere to Victoria's Graduated Licensing System conditions and the school requirements regarding students

driving a car to school.

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

*Note: A photograph of the student's drive