

# WHITTLESEA SECONDARY COLLEGE

## BUS TRAVEL CONDITIONS

### NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS AND TO BUS TRAVELLERS

Students at State and registered schools may be permitted to travel on a school bus service subject to the conditions set out in the Education Regulations, 1988.

**It should be noted that permission to travel on a school bus is a privilege and not a right.**

Permission to travel may be withdrawn if a student's behaviour is unsatisfactory or if the appropriate fare has not been paid. Considerable responsibility rests on all concerned to ensure that bus travel is as safe as possible.

The following conditions apply to students who travel on Whittlesea Secondary College buses. Students should be at the bus stop indicated at least five minutes before the stated time and all rules and instructions must be complied with.

The following rules apply and are enforced:-

- Students must wait at the bus stop in an orderly fashion. This includes not playing on the roadway and not attempting to approach the bus until it has stopped.
- On leaving a bus, students must wait on the same side of the road until the bus has moved on and they must have a clear view of the road in both directions before attempting to cross the road.
- Parents waiting for students at a bus stop should wait on the same side of the road as the bus in order to eliminate the risk of students running across the road.
- No student is to attempt to board or leave a bus while it is in motion.
- Students must board and leave the bus in a quiet and orderly fashion.
- Students should not talk to the driver when the bus is in motion.
- Students must not behave in any manner that will distract the driver from their duties.
- If a student rides a bicycle to the bus stop it needs to be left in a safe place where it will not cause any inconvenience. The student and his/her family must accept sole responsibility for the bicycle.
- Bus Captains are appointed to assist with supervision. They have full authority and responsibility, under the driver's direction, and are required to report unacceptable conduct including any misbehaviour or vandalism.
- Students may be required to sit in either a formal or informal seating arrangement to assist in the safe passage of all students, as directed by either the bus driver or bus coordinator.
- Students must remain seated for the whole of the journey. No student should, in any circumstances, have any part of his/her body protruding from a bus, or throw litter or anything else from a bus.
- Smoking, eating food, drinking and chewing gum are not permitted on school buses. This also complies with Public Transport Regulations which apply in the transport of students to and from their school.
- Objects of any kind are not permitted to be thrown around the bus.
- If a bus is fitted with seatbelts then students are to correctly fit the seatbelt.

In the unlikely event of non-compliance with any of the above rules of travel, the following may result:-

- The driver stops the bus and records the student's name and full details of the particular situation.
- The offender may be carried to his/her school and/or back to his/her bus stop.
- The offender will be reported to the Principal or School's Bus Coordinator at the first opportunity, for further action.

Where it is considered that an offence warrants it, a pupil may be suspended from using the bus for a specified period. When this occurs, students are still required to attend school, so parents will need to make other arrangements for the student's travel to and from school for the period of suspension. Suspension for an indefinite period may be imposed if a pupil is a persistent offender or in certain other circumstances.

In all cases of vandalism, those responsible will be required to meet the cost of repairs. Any bus traveller not returning home by the bus or desiring to leave the bus at a stop other than his/her normal one, must seek permission to do so. **Students are permitted to travel on a school bus only on days when they are attending school. If they "wag" for a day they are not permitted to go on the bus. Parent/s are called to collect the student.** The bus driver is not permitted to carry any other passengers or goods without the permission of the bus coordinator.

## Bus Transport to Whittlesea Secondary College

Students at State and registered schools may be permitted to travel on a school bus service subject to the conditions set out in the Education Regulations, 1988. **It should be noted that permission to travel on a school bus is a privilege and not a right.** Permission to travel may be withdrawn if a student's behaviour is unsatisfactory or if the appropriate fare has not been paid.

All students who live closer to Whittlesea Secondary College than another State Secondary College are entitled to free bus transport, except where public transport is the only means of transport. Senior students (Years 11 and 12) whose closest College does not offer two of their preferred subjects can apply for free travel.

Students who reside in the following areas are **entitled to free transport** to the College:

Arthurs Creek (to the east of the creek), Flowerdale (South of Forest Road), Humevale, Kinglake, Kinglake West, Kinglake East, Mernda, Woodstock and Yan Yean.

Students who reside in the following areas are **NOT entitled to free transport** to the College, they become fare payers unless they are Senior students and apply to the College for exemption on curriculum grounds: Bylands, Broadford, Craigieburn, Clonbinane, Epping, Diamond Creek, Hurstbridge, Midhurst, Doreen, Laurimar, Kalkallo, Kilmore, Mill Park, South Morang, Wollert.

Students from Beveridge, Darraweit Guim, Heathcote Junction, Wandong, Hidden Valley, Donnybrook (east of railway line), Upper Plenty and Wallan are **NOT entitled to free transport**.

Access to the school bus network for fare payers may only exist if there is surplus capacity on the bus route.

Fare Payers fall into three categories:

1. Students who access the Dyson's Route 562 Plenty Road Bus. These students can purchase a daily, weekly or other MYKI Zone Two ticket.
2. Students who live SOUTH of the College in areas such as Laurimar, Epping, Mill Park and South Morang. These students will be required to purchase a MYKI Zone 2 half-yearly or yearly ticket. This is a requirement of the Public Transport Victoria whose responsibility includes the provision of transport services to schools across the state. This ticket will enable the student access to all MYKI Zone 2 transport 7 days a week. Tickets can be purchased from any train station. Conveyancing allowance is available to eligible students who travel on the Laurimar bus route. Please refer to the following link for the application form and due dates:  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/schooloperations/studenttransport.htm>  
Please use the public transport application form.  
The 2012 fare as determined by the Minister of Transport is \$213.50 for a half-yearly ticket and \$410.00 for a full year.
3. Students who live NORTH of the College in areas such as Wallan, Kilmore and Clonbinane. These students are classified as 'Country Zone Travellers' and the fare is to be paid directly to the College. The College will invoice parents if the required amount is not paid in advance.  
The 2013 fare is \$213.50 for a half-year or \$410.00 for a full year.

To travel on public transport with a student concession all students must carry a Department of Transport student concession Card. Half-Yearly Student Passes usually expire on 31 July, Second Half-Yearly Student Passes go on sale on 1 July and Yearly Student Passes usually expire 28 February following year. The application form can be found at [www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/fares\\_tickets/concessions/students](http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/fares_tickets/concessions/students)

Both Wollert and Kalkallo fall into special categories as detailed below.

1. **Wollert** - Wollert is closer to Epping Secondary College than Whittlesea Secondary College, but there is no bus operating to Epping Secondary College. Intending students will have to make application through the College to the Regional Office for eligible (free) status.
2. **Kalkallo** - Kalkallo is closer to Craigieburn Secondary College than Whittlesea Secondary College, but there is no bus operating to Craigieburn Secondary College. Intending students will have to make application through the College to the Regional Office for eligible (free) status.