Wooragee Primary School
Private Car Use Policy 2016

Rationale:

The Wooragee Primary School community understands that in a small school the cost of hiring a bus to transport small numbers of students makes excursions unaffordable to many families. The Wooragee Primary School community approves of students travelling in private cars to participate in school excursions as an economical and appropriate strategy to ensure maximum opportunities for students at minimum cost and to promote community involvement in school activities.

The school supports a culture (values, expectations and standards) and shared commitment to zero tolerance of child abuse, and arrangements that allow it to occur will not be tolerated. The school takes into consideration the diversity of the children attending the school, and their particular vulnerabilities. e.g. children with a disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Aims:

To ensure

- Maximum participation in all school activities by minimizing excursion travel costs.
- The school meets safety and legal requirements when using private vehicles to transport students or for official school business.

Implementation:

The Principal is responsible for ensuring:

- All private vehicles used to transport students meet DET requirements of current registration driver’s licence, Working With Children Check (WWCC) and current comprehensive car insurance.
- The school maintains a register of valid and current; drivers’ car registrations, drivers’ licences, WWCC and comprehensive insurance policies.
- Parents are informed their child will be transported in a private vehicle and with whom and they give signed consent.
- Ensure compliance with child seat belt/restraint laws:
  - S558-2009 Changes to Child Restraint Laws
  - S561-2009 Changes to Child Restraint Laws - Clarification
- Drivers of private cars will generally not be compensated financially for transporting students unless approved in advance by the principal.(e.g. reimbursement of fuel while driving students on camp)
- The school keeps accurate records of the students travelling in each vehicle and driver mobile phone contact.
- Staff are not directed to transport other staff, students, or equipment.
- An online notification of school activity form is completed prior to the activity
- Planning and approvals process is undertaken, in accordance with Departmental policy and requirements and the school’s excursion policy.
Related policies

- Excursions – Adventure Activities
- Excursions – Student Preparation and Behaviour
- Excursions – Planning and Approvals
- Excursions – Safety, Emergency and Risk Management
- Excursions – Venue Selection
- Excursions – Parent or Carer Consent
- Excursions – Staffing and Supervision
- Excursions – Student Medical Information
- Medical Emergencies
- Volunteer Checks
- Wooragee Primary School Excursion policy

Related legislation

Road Safety Act 1986

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed every three years or earlier as required.

Ratified: November 2016
Review Date: 2019 or earlier as required