

 BERWICK COLLEGE POLICY	TITLE	STUDENT VEHICLE USE		
	VERSION/YEAR	3/2022		
	PUBLISHED LOCATIONS	COMPASS		
	ISSUE DATE	OCTOBER 2022		
	REVIEW DATE	MAY 2025		
	REVIEWED BY	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	RATIFIED BY	COLLEGE COUNCIL
PURPOSE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that Berwick College policies and procedures accurately reflect the College operations, directions, educational philosophy and goals and meet all legislative, compliance and duty of care requirements. To provide policy and procedure direction to all staff, students, parents, carers and volunteers of Berwick College. To ensure that safe guidelines for students with a valid Driver's Licence are well advertised, and adhered to, given DET regulations and Berwick College's particular requirements. Any student holding a valid Victorian Driver's Licence, who intend to drive/ride to school, either on a regular basis or occasionally, must comply with College policy and are required to complete the Correct Use of a Private Vehicle by Students contract. 			
BACKGROUND:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berwick College seeks to establish and maintain a high level of professional standards in relation to all activities within the College. This policy is in accord with the College's 'Mission Statement', 'Values' and 'Service Standards'. 			
RELATED DOCUMENTS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DET Traffic Safety Education Road Safety Act 1986 DET Student Driver Policy Guidelines March 2016 DET Private Car Use Policy 			

RATIONALE:

As is the case with many secondary colleges, more and more of our senior students are driving to and from school. While most young drivers are careful, safety conscious and considerate when driving, they are one of the most vulnerable road user groups.

With this in mind, the College has a responsibility to take all reasonable measures to ensure the welfare and safety of students. Our Student Vehicle Use policy outlines what we expect from student drivers and copies of this may be obtained from the Senior School.

Note: Under no circumstances should students transport other students in private vehicles for any school organised activity or function whether held during or outside school times. Exception: During an approved pre-licence driver education program. A separate issue is students driving themselves to and from school for which procedures are clearly outlined below:

IMPLEMENTATION:

Students who have their driver's licence are permitted to drive to and from school provided that:

- The driver, if holding a P1 Licence, must not carry any other passenger while they are driving to and from school unless the passenger is a sibling of the driver and permission and details have been provided by the parent or carer to the Senior School
- The driver complies with Victoria's Graduated Licensing System conditions and the College requirements regarding students driving to school
- The driver observes and complies with Victorian Road Safety Road Rules and signage
- Students sign a contract for "Correct use of a private vehicle by students" obtained from the Senior School
- Details of the vehicle and a copy of the student's Driver Licence is provided to the Senior School Coordinators
- The driver parks their vehicle in the lower car park

- The student's vehicle and the car park are out of bounds during school hours
- Students driving to and from school are not permitted to leave during the day until after their final class for that day.

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTING THE POLICY:

This policy will be regularly brought to the attention of the school community through:

- Staff and Student Bulletins
- Student year level assemblies
- The Berwick College Newsletter
- The contract signed by parents or carers and students of "Correct use of a private vehicle by students".

BREACH OF POLICY:

The driver should be aware that their conduct on the road impacts on community perceptions of the College. Our College takes pride in maintaining a positive image within the local community and it is important that the same standard of courtesy and consideration be extended to other road users and pedestrians as would be expected from face to face contact with members of the public. Careless and unsafe driving reflects poorly not just on the driver personally but also on the school. Members of the school community are requested to inform the school if they are aware of any student who is driving in a reckless or dangerous manner or who is not adhering to road rules.

Any complaint relating to the manner in which a student vehicle has been driven will be taken seriously and investigated. If student drivers have been found to put themselves and other road users at risk appropriate consequences will be implemented such as the student being banned from driving to school for a period of time or suspension and if necessary, the police notified.

EVALUATION:

- This policy will be reviewed every three years.