



POLICY RELATING TO:

STUDENT DRIVER

FIRST IMPLEMENTED 2011

LAST REVIEWED AUGUST 2014

Context Statement

It is recognised many senior students may wish/choose to travel to and from school in their own vehicles and they should view this as a privilege and not a right.

Saint Mark's College is aware of the need for other students to travel in these vehicles from time to time. The conditions of this need are governed by the new laws for young drivers as legislated by the South Australian Government on 28 July, 2014. Through this policy, Saint Mark's College, Bosco Campus, will endeavour to ensure the safety and responsibility of student drivers and their authorised passengers.

Rationale

We at St Mark's College acknowledge that:

- There is State Government legislation which underpins this policy.
- Students may need to drive to and from school and school activities.
- At times, student drivers may need to transport other students to and from school and school activities.
- There exists a duty of care for the safety and well being of student drivers and passengers.
- Safety of both driver and any passengers is of great importance.

Purpose

In implementing this policy, St Mark's College aims to:

- Impress upon students that driving a vehicle to and from school is a privilege and not a right.
- Educate student drivers of their responsibilities.
- Seek parental permission regarding the student use of vehicles.
- Monitor and keep records of student drivers and their authorised passengers.

Guidelines

St Mark's College will:

- Provide opportunities for students to attend Responsible Driver Awareness courses during school time.
- Follow up any breaches of guidelines associated with the policy in a prompt, fair and consistent manner, in keeping with the College's *Developing Personal Responsibility* Procedures.

The Principal/Deputy Principal will:

- Obtain from parents/caregivers the names of student drivers and permissions from parents/caregivers of any authorised passengers in their student driver's vehicle.
- Comply with any State Government legislation.
- Designate authorised parking areas for student vehicles.
- Advise parents/caregivers that the school takes no responsibility for damage to any student vehicles parked on or adjacent to College premises.
- Ensure that driver's licences are sighted for authenticity.
- Invoke standard internal disciplinary procedures if breaches of this policy occur.

The Staff will:

- Monitor the use of student vehicles and passengers travelling in those vehicles.
- Make transport arrangements for excursions which minimises student vehicle use.
- Report any concerns, or breaches of this policy to the Deputy Principal/Principal.

The Students will:

- Obtain written permission of the Year 11/12 Coordinator /Deputy Principal and parents/caregivers prior to commencing driving to school.
- Provide their driver's licence, vehicle registration number and type of vehicle to the College for authenticity.
- Ensure their vehicle is roadworthy and appropriately insured.
- Park in the designated areas at Bosco Campus as directed by the College.
- Not allow unauthorised passengers to travel in their vehicles to and from school and school activities.
- Not transport other student passengers if the driver is the holder of a Learner's Permit.
- Not use their vehicles as a place for recreation or leisure.
- Follow sign-out procedures before leaving school grounds in student vehicles during school hours.
- Drive in a responsible and lawful manner at all times, and ensure that authorised passengers travelling in the vehicle use the appropriate restraining devices.
- Be conscious of being identified as a Saint Mark's College student whilst driving and therefore act appropriately at all times.
- Give consideration to neighbouring residents of the College, and adhere to all road traffic rules.
- Advise the College of any change of vehicle and any related circumstances throughout the year.

The Parents/Caregivers will:

- Undertake to support the College policy by ensuring their student driver is complying with the policy and associated rules and procedures.
- Provide written consent where student vehicles are to be used to transport students to school and school activities.
- Seek permission from the Principal/Deputy Principal of any alternative arrangement that needs to be considered to meet individual/particular circumstances.

The College Board will:

- Support the College and its staff in the implementation of this policy.
- Participate in the development, implementation and review of this policy.

Basis of Discretion

The Principal has the final decision on any interpretation of this policy

Supporting Documents

- Student Driver permission form
- Saint Mark's College *Developing Personal Responsibility* Procedures (2014)
- New driving laws for young drivers in South Australia (Government circular of June 2014)
- Student Diary
- Staff Handbook

APPROVAL OF STUDENT DRIVER POLICY

PRINCIPAL

COLLEGE BOARD CHAIR

Date:

Review Date:

August 2017