

Student Wellbeing and Safety: Students Driving Cars To/From School Policy and Procedure

Rationale

It appears that the number of students of legal driving age, with their Probationary Licence, to drive to and from school will increase in the future. This can be attributed to a number of factors including:

- increased numbers of students completing Senior VCAL, which has led to more students of driving age being enrolled
- an increase in the number of students who travel between school and work on a regular basis
- an increase in the number of students who live independently

Aims

The purpose of this policy is to enhance student safety by monitoring students who drive to and from school and to establish systems to ensure that students driving and travelling as passengers in cars of other Advance College of Education (ACE) students (to and from school) do so with parental knowledge and approval.

Legal and Regulatory Basis for Compliance

- Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic.)
- Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007 (Vic.)
- Road safety Act 1986 and Road Safety Driver Regulations 2019

Implementation

Students may drive to and from the College by vehicle only if the following are adhered to:

1. Vehicles driven to and from the College must be registered and meet all VicRoad regulations and requirements. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer (or student living independently) of the student driver to ensure that the vehicle is in good and safe working order.
2. Vehicles parked in the shared carpark or off-site are at the owner's risk. It is the responsibility of the student or their parents to obtain appropriate comprehensive insurance for the vehicle to cover potential damage whilst parked.
3. 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.
4. Parents/carers will be notified if their student does not adhere to the Students Driving Cars to School Policy and Procedure and permission to drive to/from school may be withdrawn until the issues identified have been satisfactorily addressed.
5. No student is to drive to the College, until the ACEF89 Students Driving Cars to and From School: Parent Permission and Student Agreement form is completed and returned to their Home Teacher.
6. Driving of vehicles to any other College activity must have separate permission for each occasion.
7. 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 (See ACEF89). 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 (red plate) drivers to carry no more than one peer passenger

(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.

8. Students who wish to be driven to and/or from school by a student enrolled at ACE are required to submit a completed ACEF90 Passenger Permission Form to their Home Teacher.

Definitions

Victoria's Graduated Licensing System (GLS): is designed to help improve the safety of young drivers. Victoria implemented the GLS to address young driver crash factors including inexperience, driving in high risk situations such as with multiple passengers, and unsafe behaviours such as speeding, drink or drug driving and inattention from distractions like mobile phones.

Vehicle: in this policy refers to a roadworthy car or motorbike, which has the appropriate insurance and registration.

Student: means all persons enrolled at ACE in the current year.

Procedure

For students wishing to drive to/from school:

1. Home Teacher to provide copies of and explain: this policy and procedure, ACEF89 Students Driving Cars to and From School: Parent Permission and Student Agreement, ACEF90 Passenger Permission and ACEF91 Student Drivers Principal's Letter to students when they indicate that they are intending to drive to or from school.
2. Student submits completed form/s to their Home Teacher who will forward to the Principal or their delegate for approval.
3. Principal/delegate will forward the approved form/s to the Home Teacher to place in the student's file.
4. The Home Teacher will inform the student when they may commence driving to/from the College.

For students wishing to travel in a vehicle to/from school with an ACE Student:

1. Home Teacher to provide copies of and explain: this policy and procedure, ACEF90 Passenger Permission Form and ACEF91 Students Drivers Principal's Letter to students when they indicate that they are intending to travel in a vehicle to/from school with an ACE student.
2. Student submits completed form/s to their Home Teacher who will forward to the Principal or their delegate for approval.
3. Principal/delegate will forward the approved form/s to the Home Teacher to place in the student's file.
4. The Home Teacher will inform the student when they may commence travelling to/from school with an ACE student.

Related Documents

ACEF89 Students Driving Cars to and From School: Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form

ACEF90 Passenger Permission Form

ACEF91 Students Drivers Cars Principal's Letter