



# STUDENT DRIVER

## POLICY

### PURPOSE

This policy sets out our school's approach to students driving to and from school and school events. To ensure the safety of all students at Mortlake College.

Our school recognises the need for the whole community to make efforts to minimise the risks associated with young drivers and to encourage responsible driving behaviours for students.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to all students at Mortlake College who have a valid driver's licence.

### POLICY

Our school recognises that some students will turn 18 and obtain a driver's license while they are still attending school. Some of these students will want to drive to and from school. Mortlake College expects that all student drivers will adhere to the conditions of their licence and the road rules and will drive in a safe and responsible manner. If the school becomes aware that a student driver has driven in an unsafe or irresponsible manner, police will be notified.

Students are not permitted to drive themselves to and from camps, excursions or other school activities unless previously arranged and agreed in consultation with the school principal, and only in exceptional circumstances or in circumstances where all students are required to make their own way to the event. Consistent with Victoria's Graduated Licensing System conditions, students are permitted to drive only one peer passenger (aged 16-22), unless the passengers are siblings of the driver.

Students are not permitted to use their car during the school day unless it is for an approved reason such as an unavoidable medical appointment. A certificate of attendance at the appointment is required.

Under no circumstance can students transport other students in their car when travelling to and from any school program or function (e.g. Graduation Dinner or Presentation Night).

Students can only drive other students to/from school with the written permission of both parents/guardians.

If students act in breach of this policy, parents/carers will be notified and appropriate student sanctions will apply.

Mortlake College takes no responsibility for damage to vehicles parked in the student car park and parking is at the vehicle owner's own risk.

**Note: once a student turns 18, they are legally adults and can make their own decisions so they do not require the consent of their parent/carer to attend an appointment during the school day. However, unless there are reasons why the student does not want their parent/carer to know about the appointment, you may decide to ask for consent from the parent/carer for the student to leave the school for the appointment or at least ensure that the parent/carer is aware that the student will be leaving during the school day for the appointment**

### Parking

Students may park in the Activity Centre car park.

### **Implementation:**

Student drivers, their parents and the passengers parents are to be given a copy of the “Student Driver Policy”, the “Student Driver: Letter to Parents” and a “Student Driver / Parental Permission Form”.

The VCE Coordinator will keep a record of those who have signed and returned the form.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- [Traffic Safety](#)

### **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle or earlier if required.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

**October 2018**



MORTLAKE COLLEGE

10 Hood Avenue

P.O. Box 84

Mortlake 3272

Phone: (03) 5599 2204 Fax: (03) 5599 2503

email: [mortlake.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:mortlake.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## **STUDENT DRIVER: LETTER TO PARENTS**

(Adjusted from the DET guidelines for schools)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The school is aware that a number of senior students intend to drive to school either occasionally or on a regular basis.

Students and parents need to be aware that students cannot drive other students to or from school functions or programs (e.g. Graduation dinner or Presentation Night) and that driving other students to and from school will only be allowed with written permission of both parents/guardians. It is also important that students do not drive or park in the school grounds and when parking near the school, Mortlake College takes no responsibility for damage to the vehicle.

Other school expectations are detailed in the attached copy of the school policy on student drivers. Breaches of the school policy will lead to appropriate disciplinary action.

The school is mindful of the fact that young drivers are at greater risk than older more experienced drivers and that travelling with teenage passengers considerably increases the risks for young drivers. Consequently, we are conscious of the need to ensure our duty of care for students getting to and from school safely.

We are also committed to ensuring that the community maintains a positive perception of the school and that irresponsible and unsafe driving by students will inevitably have a negative effect on the school's image within the community. We therefore have an expectation that students will drive to and from school in a safe and responsible manner. If the school becomes aware that students are breaking road rules, the police will be notified.

Sincerely,

Graeme Good  
Principal  
Mortlake College



MORTLAKE COLLEGE

10 Hood Avenue

P.O. Box 84

Mortlake 3272

Phone: (03) 5599 2204 Fax: (03) 5599 2503

email: [mortlake.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:mortlake.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## STUDENT DRIVER / PARENT PERMISSION FORM

(Adjusted from DET guidelines for schools)

### Student Driver:

I agree to adhere to Mortlake College's student driver policy.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Car registration number: \_\_\_\_\_

Car colour, make and model: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent / Guardian of Driver:

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to drive to school and the passenger indicated on this form. I am aware of Mortlake College's student driver policy.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent / Guardian of Passenger:

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to driven to school by \_\_\_\_\_

I am aware of Mortlake College's student driver policy.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE RETURNED TO THE VCE COORDINATOR**