



While most young drivers are careful, safety conscious and considerate when driving, they are one of the most vulnerable road user groups. Travelling with teenage passengers adds to the risk for these young drivers.

Any student that holds a valid Queensland licence who intends to drive to school, either on a regular basis or occasionally, must comply with the school policy and is required to complete the Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form (links to these forms are below).

Legal considerations

St Mary's College is **not responsible** for students whose parent or guardian allow them to drive to school or to be passengers in vehicles driven by other students.

The College takes no responsibility for damage to vehicles. Claims arising out of accident or injury in a private vehicle would be dependent upon the owner's insurance and on the application of common law principles.

All drivers must abide by road rules set out in [Transport Operations \(Road Use Management - Road Rules\) Regulations 2009](#) (Qld).

Other considerations

St Mary's must register all student drivers and passengers to enable accurate identification of owners/drivers/passengers and to establish parental permission to be a driver or passenger.

It is important that as parents/guardians you understand that we have a duty of care for all our students and that your son or daughter does not drive other students in their car without prior parental permission. Once again this is to protect the wellbeing of all our students.

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds without written permission from parents. It is not acceptable for students to leave the school grounds at any time during the day to get 'things' from their vehicles.

Safety First – College conditions

The following conditions are designed to keep our young drivers as safe as possible as they drive to and from school:

1. Students are required to adhere to all road rules and drive in a safe and responsible manner, including adhering to all College signage such as speed limits around schools.
2. 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.
3. Student licence details and car make and registration for all vehicles must be recorded with the school.
4. Students driving to and from school are subject to the same travel rules as any other travel to and from school (e.g. students must wear their uniform in the appropriate manner, no smoking and sensible conduct).
5. 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.
6. Student drivers, a parent/guardian and, if relevant, the parent/guardian of any passenger, must sign the Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form.
7. Any unsafe driving behaviour or breaches of road rules will be reported to the police.

Related Forms

Parent Permission Form (accessed from Parent Portal)

[Student Agreement Form](#)

Parent Permission Form for Passengers (accessed from Parent Portal)

Responsibility for implementation:	Staff, Students, and parents/guardians
Policy status:	New
Key stakeholders:	Staff, Students, and families
Endorsement Body:	Senior Leadership Team
Policy Author:	Principal
Date of Scheduled Review:	2021

The content of this policy can be changed at the College's discretion at any time without notification.