

BUS SERVICE 2017



WHAT ARE THE CURRENT BUS ROUTES?

Werribee route	includes Hoppers Crossing.
Inverleigh route	includes Shelford and Teesdale.
Meredith route	includes Bannockburn and Lethbridge.
Grovedale route	includes Waurin Ponds, Belmont, Highton and Newtown.
Lara route	includes Norlane and Lovely Banks.
Moolap route	includes East Geelong, Geelong and Newcomb.
Drysdale route	includes Wallington and Leopold.

What is the cost of the bus service?

The cost is reviewed annually and in 2017 the Bus Levies are:

- Metropolitan Bus Levy- \$1,285 per student, per annum. The Metropolitan Bus Levy applies to students travelling from Werribee, Hoppers Crossing, Wyndham Vale and surrounding areas.
- Regional Bus Levy- \$1,055 per student, per annum. The Regional Bus Levy applies to all other students.
- A pro-rata cost applies to part-time travellers.
- Casual bus travellers are charged \$3.00 per trip and will be invoiced after the end of each term.
- Bus Levies are invoiced together with College fees at the beginning of each year and adjusted if required.

Does the government subsidise the cost of bus travel?

There is a Conveyance Allowance available for eligible families. Eligibility depends on two main criteria. Firstly, the student must live more than 4.8kms from Covenant College and secondly, if there is another school of a similar classification to Covenant College closer to the address of the student, then the family is not eligible. Families are encouraged to contact the College Bursar to confirm eligibility.

How are bus routes developed?

Each year families are surveyed and asked if they intend using the bus service. The responses are used to

develop the various bus routes. Families are clustered and grouped together on the same bus based on the students' addresses.

Does the bus route change?

Yes it does. As students join or stop using the bus service, the various pick up times change accordingly, but generally, the pick-up and drop off locations do not change.

How is the service regulated?

The College's bus service must comply with the Transport Safety Victoria regulations. Stringent regulations regarding safety, administration and general operations need to be complied with. Annual audits are conducted and the College must comply to maintain its accreditation.

What responsibilities lie with the parents and guardians?

Covenant College is committed to providing a safe and reliable service to all bus travellers. Parents and guardians are required to:

- communicate with the Transport Co-ordinator in a timely manner regarding their child not using the service on particular days. This is usually done via the Bus Message Form, SMS to bus phone or through the Administration office.
- communicate any concerns regarding the service to the Transport Co-ordinator.
- be at the drop off and pick up locations if they have primary school children (Foundation to Year 4).
- support the drivers by encouraging their children to adhere to the bus rules.
- participate in the annual Bus Satisfaction Survey each year.

What happens in the case of emergencies?

There are established procedures guiding emergencies. Individual drivers will contact the Transport Co-ordinator who will then contact the office, informing them of the situation and then instructing them accordingly- this usually involves informing parents of the situation. Emergencies instructions to parents are to be taken from the school or bus coordinator and not from your children.