



Dear Parent/Carer

A number of our senior school students are driving to or intend to drive to school this year, and some have indicated that they intend to carry another student as a passenger.

Your son/daughter has indicated that he/she intends to drive to school and/or will be a passenger of another student who is driving to school. Despite the fact that most young drivers try to be careful, safety conscious and considerate when driving, research clearly shows that they are at a higher risk of having a serious crash than older, more experienced drivers. The presence of young passengers also greatly increases the risk for teenage drivers and, the more passengers, the greater the risk.

It is important that all students and their parents/carer are aware of these risks and the type of behaviour that Mount Waverley Secondary College expects from student drivers. Copies of the school policy on student drivers and the Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form are attached. The policy outlines the school's expectations and provides information regarding the transport of passengers. Of note is that student drivers are not permitted to carry other students as passengers to and from school without the written permission of their parent/carer and the passenger's parent/carer. Under the Graduated Licensing System, no more than one peer aged passenger (aged 16-22 years) is permitted to travel with the driver, unless the passengers are siblings of the driver. This condition does not apply when a fully licensed driver is sitting in the front passenger seat. This is based on research that shows that young drivers carrying several passengers are more likely to engage in risk taking behaviour.

Students driving cars to school: *Parent
Permission and Student Agreement Form*