



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Ahead of the school year, we ask families to please familiarise themselves with the bus routes and timetables to ensure all students arrive on time in the morning and depart safely in the afternoon. It is important to note that bus times are subject to change and may vary depending on weather, public events and traffic conditions. In the event the bus service is significantly delayed, Bellarine Secondary College will notify the community via Compass and the college Facebook page.

### **Bellarine Secondary College Dedicated Public Bus Routes**

Bellarine Secondary College students are served by multiple dedicated public bus routes provided by McHarry's Bus lines, which service the Bellarine Peninsula. These buses are controlled by Public Transport Victoria (PTV) and travellers require a valid Transit Student Pass (TSP) to travel on all of these buses. Please ensure your child carries their valid Transit Student Pass (TSP) when travelling on public transport.

**To determine which bus your child will be able to travel on, you can search the timetables / maps found on the McHarry's website at <https://mcharrys.com.au/school-bus/> or contact McHarry's on 5223 211.**

### **How Do Families Apply for a TSP? –**

Purchase a Transit Student Pass (TSP)

- If your child has a Bellarine Secondary College Student ID card - they take their ID card directly to the Geelong V/Line Train Station or the PTV Hub in Westfield Geelong to purchase a Geelong half-yearly or yearly pass.
- If your child does not have a Bellarine Secondary College Student ID card please complete the 2024 PTV School Student ID and Student Pass application form available from the Ocean Grove and Drysdale Administration Offices or online at <https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/myki/concessions-and-free-travel/children-and-students/school-students/>.

**Please note these forms will become available from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.** To complete the form, you will need to obtain two passport photographs before the form can be validated. Take the completed form with passport photos to either administration office at Bellarine Secondary College for validation and then take the validated form to purchase a Geelong half-yearly or yearly pass to the Geelong V/Line Train Station or the PTV Hub in Westfield Geelong.

Families may be eligible to claim a reimbursement for the costs of the TSP from the Department of Education and Training. **Eligibility refers to families residing more than 4.8km** by the shortest practical route within the closest zoned school according to Find My School <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/>

### **Claim for Reimbursement**

Complete a Conveyance Application for permission to travel (Green form) and a reimbursement form available from the school website or from either campus then submit to the Administration Office, with an attached copy of the ticket purchase receipt. Bellarine Secondary College will then apply for a conveyance allowance reimbursement via DET on the families' behalf. Reimbursements are given a term after you have submitted your receipt for yearly tickets and at the end of the year for half yearly tickets.

### **Public Transport**

The most economical public transport ticket for most families to purchase is likely to be the Geelong TSP which the cost is \$372 (yearly ticket) or \$186 (half-yearly), we recommend a Yearly Ticket as Yearly Tickets are reimbursed faster by the Department of Education. A benefit for families is that Geelong TSP allows for unlimited travel on all bus services in the Geelong area including the Bellarine Peninsula, Torquay & Jun Juc, and on V/Line trains between (Zone 4 + 5) Marshall, South Geelong, Geelong, North Geelong, North Shore, Corio, Waurin Ponds and Lara train stations.

Bellarine Secondary College coordinates this program as required by Department of Education and Training and Public Transport Victoria. Decisions made on bus services are not a school decision. We will relay all concerns to PTV and DET and continue to work on getting better services for our growing population.

**Need Help?** Should you have any queries please contact the Bus Co-ordinators, Shae Dunstan, Linda Kelly or the Administration Office on ☎ 5251 9000.