



## **Mini-Bus: Policy for Before School Pick-Up and After School Drop- Off**

**Rationale:** We would like to see all students attending school on a regular basis, that is, more than 90% attendance. We will, where possible, help families who have no practical way of either getting their children to school, or picking them up in the afternoon. This is a service we provide to help students first, families second. **This service is a short term strategy to get students to school while we work on longer term solutions.**

**We feel it is important for parents/caregivers to understand there is no guarantee or entitlement to this service, it is made available by the school to help students attend regularly when there is no other practical means of them travelling to and from a school.**

Therefore, students may be eligible based on the following criteria before being considered for the bus run each day:

- Have been **enrolled at school for at least ten weeks** and regular attendance has been a concern
- Parents / caregivers have demonstrated inability to get children to school (or pick up in the afternoon). Walking to school is not considered an inability, unless the distance to be walked exceeds 1.0 kilometre and there are physical limitations preventing this
- Student has the ability to meet the bus on a route which allows us to leave the school at 8.15 am and arrives at school before 8.40 am
- The school considers the student(s) to be at risk and have concerns about child protection/safety
- All other avenues have been explored and have been deemed unsuitable by the leadership team

### **Other considerations for the leadership team will be:**

- Family hardship
- Bus route, we do not want to be changing this on a regular basis
- Students who live closer to another school will be considered 'lower priority'
- Continual non-attendance will mean this strategy is not working, in which case we may offer that place on the bus to another family
- Behaviour of the student while on the bus is appropriate at all times

While all of these aspects will be considered, the final decision will be made by the leadership team.