NAG 5
HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE
CHILD MOTOR VEHICLE PASSENGER RESTRAINT PROCEDURE

Goal:
Child Passenger safety is an important aspect of road safety education, which is a shared responsibility between the school and parents.

The following guidelines will support the school’s overall safety policy, help reduce children’s risk of injury, and support their wellbeing.

Purpose:
- To support road safety awareness at all levels throughout the school
- To encourage road safety and injury prevention behaviours among children as they travel to and from school
- To encourage parents to model and reinforce messages taught at school

Guidelines:
School staff, parents, caregivers and students travelling on school related trips will be guided by the following procedures:

1. Child restraints are mandatory for all children under seven (until their seventh birthday) when travelling on school related trips in privately owned motor vehicles, including minivans and shuttle buses.

2. Children from their 7th birthday until their 8th birthday will be correctly secure in an approved child restraint if one is available in the vehicle (and if not, in any child restraint or safety belt that is available)

3. If parents have a booster seat available for children under the height of 148cm the school will use these when travelling in privately owned motor vehicles, including privately owned minivans and shuttle buses.
4. Booster seats must meet an approved standard and be appropriately sized and fitted in the vehicle.

5. Children must travel in the back seats unless these are already occupied by other children. The tallest child should travel in the front seat, and the seat should be moved as far back as possible, and if possible the airbag should be turned off.

6. Lap belts will only be used when no other alternative is available.

7. School staff will support drivers of any privately owned vehicles transporting children on school related trips to ensure that all children are seated appropriately.

8. Children will remove back packs whilst seated in the vehicle. Bags will be safely stored either on the floor or in the vehicle boot / storage facility.

9. Seat belts must remain fastened until the vehicle is safely parked.

10. If children are travelling in privately owned motor vehicles, completion of the school’s child passenger safety contract is part of the school trip planning procedure.

**Review**

This procedure will be reviewed every three years in accordance with the Board/School Self Review Programme.

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Chairperson                           Principal

Date : _____/_____/_____  Review Date : _____/_____/_____