



Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

2nd February 2017

KEY DATES

February

- | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6 - 8 | Year Seven Camp,
Howman's Gap |
| 7 | Respect, Engagement,
Potential class BBQ at 6pm. |
| 8 | Breakfast Club
P&C Meeting 7pm in the
Staff Common Room
(Admin Building) |
| 9 - 10 | University of Wollongong
Discovery Day |
| 13 | Riverina Boys Basketball
Trials |
| 15 | Breakfast Club |
| 16 | Twilight Swimming Carnival |
| 17 | Day off in lieu of swimming
carnival |

Principal's Report

Welcome 2017

I would like to extend a huge welcome to all of our Year Seven students and new students to Finley High School. I hope that your time at Finley High School is happy, memorable and successful. To all our returning students, it has been lovely to see your enthusiasm this week. The school uniform looks fantastic and students have been keen to commence new classes. I hope that all students take every opportunity that Finley High has to offer to achieve their very best.

New staff and staff changes

This year we are pleased to welcome Mr Nick Campbell to our school as the new Mathematics Head Teacher, Mr Simon Clark as a new Art teacher, Mrs Jenny Philpot who will be teaching careers and Ms Karen Andrews who will be training at our school as a school counsellor. Mrs Dimitra Wright will also join the support staff as a SLSO and Mr Brian O'Hora will be helping out in some classrooms as well in 2017. We welcome all of these new staff members to Finley High School and look forward to working with them to build our community.

Other changes include Mrs O'Bryan teaching English, Mr Dodds relieving for Ms Laxton who has had her lovely baby girl over the holidays; Mrs Tobin returns part time to teach in the TAS area; Miss Philpot will be teaching in the HSIE faculty; Mr Maxwell will be teaching some Mathematics and PDHPE; Miss Brain will be helping Mrs Braybon in the learning SpACE; Mr McCarney and Mr Dodds will be working with Year 9 boys on a boys REP (Respect, Engagement and Potential) initiative and Mrs Vance will be relieving in the support area for the term.

I have included a staff list on page 9 of this newsletter to assist parents in knowing which teacher is in which faculty. This may help when contacting classroom teachers over class related issues.

If there is an issue about a particular subject you may wish to address, you may wish to call the school and ask for the Head Teacher of the faculty. The following are the Head Teachers at Finley High School:

English – Mrs McNaught

Science – Mr O'Leary

PDHPE/Careers – Miss Downey

Support – Mr Tooke

Mathematics – Mr Campbell

CAPA/TAS – Mrs O'Leary

HSIE – Mr Whitty

Year Advisers may assist with any issues which may be impacting on students across many subjects. They are:

Year 7 - Mrs Sexton

Year 9 – Ms Stratton

Year 11 – Mr Bird

Year 8 – Miss Scott

Year 10 – Ms Wood

Year 12 – Ms Archinal

Year Seven Camp

Next week, Year Seven will travel to Howman's Gap for their welcome to Finley High School Camp. This is a truly valuable experience for all Year Seven students as they will get to make friends with students who may have attended other primary schools. Mrs Sexton has put in a lot of time to ensure the excursion will be valuable to all students and a truly memorable experience.

Students in Year Seven will need to be at school at 6:30am on Monday to be on board the bus and ready to leave at 7am sharp. Students who live in Berrigan can meet the bus at 7:15am opposite the shire office. The excursion should arrive back in Finley on Wednesday at approximately 5pm.

Updates on the expected time of return should appear on the Finley High School facebook page.

ANZAC Scholarship

Finley High School has been successful in its application to send one student to the Western Front (France and Belgium) as part of the Premiers ANZAC Memorial Scholarship Tour in September.

To apply, students must be in Year Ten or Year Eleven this year and submit an application to me, Mrs McRae, by 5pm on Wednesday 15th February. The costs of the 13 day tour will be met by the Premier's department.

This is an exciting opportunity. I have spoken to students in Years Ten and Eleven and many are busily preparing their artefact for submission.

For further details, students can come and see me at any time.

Upgrades

The school holiday period saw many, many workers on-sight to improve our school environment.

Carpet was laid in several rooms, painting completed inside some rooms and outside the English and Mathematics rooms. Unsafe trees were removed, storm water issues were fixed and a safety fence was erected in the playground.

The P&C's plan for a new garden in the quadrangle came to fruition. It is not yet complete, but will look terrific when the turf is laid and the trees grow to provide shade for the students. I would like to thank the P&C for their generosity with this garden. It has made a real difference already to the playground environment for our school.

HSC Minimum Standards

A minimum standard of literacy and numeracy skills is essential for success in day-to-day life. They are needed to do things like following instructions in manuals, interpreting tables, graphs and charts and writing job applications.

The NSW government is working to ensure that all students have these minimum standards before they complete their HSC and/or leave school.

The easiest way to meet these standards is to achieve in the top 3 bands in each Year Nine NAPLAN test. From 2018, students who have not reached this standard in the NAPLAN tests will be able to complete online reading, writing and numeracy tests at least twice per year in Years Ten, Eleven and Twelve and for up to five years after starting the HSC.

At Finley High School, we are already identifying students who are at risk of not achieving the minimum standard and are implementing initiatives in all our faculties to develop literacy and numeracy strategies to see them succeed in the online tests and day to day life.

It is absolutely important, therefore, that students in Years Eight and Nine, in particular, work hard in all their subjects to develop the skills necessary to achieve the minimum standards to ensure a smooth transition to the HSC and life beyond the school gates.

The NAPLAN tests, to be held in May, are the first step in achieving these standards and must be taken seriously by all members of our community – teachers, students and parents alike. We will continue to make improving literacy and numeracy our focus in 2017.

IXL

This week, senior students commenced IXL lessons on Wednesday and Thursday. The response from these students has been outstanding. Students have come to school, committed to learning and worked independently on their studies in the library in their sessions this week. There was a true sense of “getting on with the job”. All students were focused on completing tasks set by their teachers.

I would like to congratulate each and every one of them for their excellent start to IXL and the mature way in which they have approached learning in this manner.

Keep up the great efforts in IXL in Year Eleven and Year Twelve and you will reap the rewards.



Above: Year Eleven students working in IXL.

National Championships

Over the holidays, several students achieved outstanding success in the sporting and community arenas.

Sascha Jones qualified for the National Age Swimming Championships in Brisbane in April.

She swam at the Victorian Country Champs in Sale during the holidays, making finals in the 13 years female 100m freestyle (placing 4th) and Open female 100m backstroke (placing 7th). In the 13 female 100m backstroke, she made the finals and was placed 2nd by 0.01 seconds, achieving a new PB and National time for the first time ever.

This is a fantastic achievement from Sascha who only trains in a 25m pool!!!

Hannah Heaney has also qualified for the National Water Skiing Championships at Mulwala in March. Hannah has been battling injury throughout the season, but managed to qualify for this national event .

I wish both these girls every success!

Congratulations

Congratulations must also go to Hayley Doohan who was awarded the Edward River Council Conargo Junior Sportsperson of the Year on Australia Day for her participation in many sports and for representing NSW in the National female AFL team Championships in 2016. Well done, Hayley!

The Murrumbidgee Shire's Jerilderie Australia Day Awards Ceremony saw Paige Nash awarded the Jerilderie Young Citizen of the Year Award and Alexandra Patu was awarded the Little Aussie Award. Alexandra was nominated for this award by her previous school, Jerilderie Public School.

Congratulations also go to Mandy Huang who has become an Australian Citizen.

Attendance

Attendance at school is compulsory for all students until they are 17. Students may leave school after they complete Year Ten if they are employed or pursuing education in another facility.

All parents should insist that their students attend school every day. Each day away is a day that students miss out on learning. If there are issues with attending school, please call me or the Year Adviser to discuss any concerns and we will work hard to try to assist in improving attendance.

If your child is absent from school because they are sick or have had an unavoidable appointment during school time, please write a note on the day they return to school outlining the reason for the absence. The student should give this note to their roll call teacher at the start of the day. If the reason is not stated on the note or no note is given, it becomes an unexplained absence on the student's report.

If your child is late for school, please write a short note with an explanation. The student should sign in with this note at the front (pay) office. A student arriving late, repeatedly with no note may be given a detention.

Book Packs

Book packs are available at school for Year Seven and Year Eight students only.

Students in Years Nine and Ten have a variety of different electives, so no booklist is available. Students should purchase the same books for English, Maths, Science, History/Geography and PDHPE that they had in Year Eight. Teachers of elective classes will inform students of their requirements in their elective classes. Generally four extra A4 books will cover the remaining electives and careers classes.

Bullying

Please find attached to this email the current procedures for managing bullying at Finley High School.

Mrs McRae
Principal

Medical Records

We are currently updating the medical records for our students and have noticed that many of the health care plans for anaphylaxis, asthma and allergies are not up to date. Could you please supply an updated health care plan to the front office as soon as possible.

Thanking you in advance.

PDHPE

The PDHPE staff would like to extend a special welcome back to Finley High School. Students have/ will be made aware of practical and theory lessons, they should write this on their timetable. They have also been made aware of the equipment required for each. PDHPE teachers for classes in Years Seven to Ten will also be give an information sheet, which gives a brief outline of what is being taught throughout the year. We ask a parent /carer to sign this and the student to glue in the front cover of their books. We also would like to see all books covered in contact to help them be kept in good condition throughout the year.

If you have any questions about PE matters please ring Miss Downey, Head Teacher, or the classroom teacher.

Miss Downey
Head Teacher PDHPE

URGENT NOTICE – \$5000 CSU Accommodation Scholarship for local students going begging

Just a reminder for anyone who will be attending CSU this year. The Berrigan Shire Council Scholarship is worth \$5000 in on-campus accommodation so it is really worthwhile. The application has re-opened and is accessible until the 6th of February. A direct link can be found on the Berrigan Shire Council Social Media feed or at <http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/fees-and-costs/help-with-costs/scholarships/find/accommodation>

Eligibility

Available to: Commencing Students; Continuing Students
Campus: Albury-Wodonga; Bathurst; Dubbo; Orange; Wagga Wagga

MUST BE STUDYING IN: Any Year (preference given to First Year students)
Any Course

Conditions:

Students must reside within the Berrigan Local Government Area (supporting documentation to be provided) Provide evidence of sound academic achievement, community/regional involvement, career goals and aspirations. <http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/fees-and-costs/help-with-costs/scholarships/find/accommodation>

Swimming Carnival

The Finley High School twilight swimming carnival takes place on Thursday the 16th of February, 2017. The students will go to class as normal for periods 1 to 4 and the first half of lunch, unless they have entered the longer distance races. At the commencement of the second half of lunch there will be a quick assembly and then students will be walked to the pool, supervised by teachers. The carnival is expected to finish at approximately 7.30pm with buses running to the town centres of Jerilderie, Berrigan and Tocomwal.

Each student needs to bring \$3 for pool entry or their Berrigan Shire season pass (to be shown on the day). Students are encouraged to wear their house colours for the entire day; however, clothing needs to be appropriate for school and suitable for any practical lessons, this includes fully enclosed footwear. It is advised that they also bring a hat, sunscreen and water bottles. Parents are welcome to come to the carnival and enjoy the activities. There will be a BBQ and kiosk selling food and drinks.

On Friday the 17th the school will not be operating for normal lessons; therefore, students are not required to attend. Should the carnival be washed out, normal lessons will be held on Thursday and Friday with the carnival being postponed to a later date.

Mr M Tooke

Swimming Carnival Co-ordinator

Bring Your Own Device at Finley High School

Finley High School has adopted a 'Bring your own device' policy in line with the majority of schools across the state. This means that we will continue to be able to offer our students a wide variety of activities utilising technology in all Key Learning Areas. Students with their own device are able to access the school server and internet, and are entitled to FREE Microsoft software via the schools Portal.

We have in the past published a document detailing the ideal specifications of a laptop that enable it to operate quickly, have long battery life, be light weight and robust. Depending on the enthusiasm of a salesman this can quickly become a very expensive machine.

In consultation with our technical support officer, we have come up with the following suggestions.

- Most laptops around the \$400 mark are perfectly adequate. **Remember you do not need to purchase software**, just the latest Windows or apple platform. That being said the more you spend the more you get in speed, performance and reliability.
- It should not be too large. The bigger it is the heavier it is, the more power it uses and more space it takes up.
- Laptops with a keyboard are recommended.
- All modern laptops with wireless will have the correct connect ability.
- Six hour battery life would be ideal.

If your child is not able to bring their own device we do have a limited number of laptops that are loaned out on a period by period basis. This is not ideal as it takes time out of class, but is the best compromise that we can offer. We do not have the funding to provide all students with a laptop.

Last year was the first of BYOD at Finley High School. We were pleased with the uptake by students, teachers and parents. Nearly 200 students have utilised the new and refurbished lockers to safely store their laptops. These lockers can be hired for \$5 per year. We have seen a marked increase in the use of technology in the classroom, especially in Years Seven and Eight. When students come to school with their new laptops we will assist them in accessing their portal and to download the free software.

The school has employed a Technical Support Officer to assist students with any laptop related issues at school. The free software can only be downloaded from the Portal outside of school hours. This is to do with downloads slowing the system too much. If you have limited/slow or no access to data at home, the Technical Support Officer can assist upon request. If you have any queries please contact the school, we will be only too pleased to help.

Mr M O'Leary
BYOD Co-ordinator

School Lockers

Students who wish to use a locker in 2017 will need to re hire them for the year. You need to pay \$5 to the pay office. The receipt needs to be taken to the SRC team at each bank of lockers, on **Wednesday, Thursday or Friday next week**. You will need to open your locker so that it can be given a clean. If you do not wish to renew your locker you need to remove your padlock and inform Mr Tessier. Lockers that have not been renewed but still have a padlock on them will run the risk of having the lock cut off if not renewed by next week.

Mr M O'Leary
Locker Co-ordinator

Brekky Club

There are a number of reasons why students are unable to have a healthy breakfast at home, with the number increasing nationwide. Over the past few years we have been requesting donations from local community organisations, clubs and businesses to help assist in developing and sustaining our Finley High School Brekky Club.

The generosity of local organisations has enabled us to appropriately set up the Brekky Club, provide all students with the most important meal of the day and also ensure the program's longevity. We have also had contact from local community organisations and church groups offering their support and assistance when needed. We will continue to seek donations and funding from our local area to ensure the school can continue the Brekky Club.

We plan to continue to run the Brekky Club this year. Every Wednesday morning students will be offered toast, milo, fruit and juice as part of the program, free of charge. Late last year we were fortunate enough to have our P&C fund a hot water unit for our BBQ Area. The unit has already been a valuable addition to the area and will continue to be so, not only for our Brekky Club but other functions held in the school. We cannot thank them enough for their contribution.

There are known positives that come from eating a nutritious breakfast in regards to education including; increased learning ability, increased concentration and rewarding behavior choices. It is exciting to know members of our community support providing our youth with the opportunity to start their day with a healthy breakfast.

Jodi Brown
Student Support Officer

Finley High School Facebook Page

We would like to remind parents, students and our wider schooling community about our Facebook Page. It is a great way to keep up to date with what is happening at Finley High School. It looks like the picture below and can be found by typing in <https://www.facebook.com/Finley-High-School-548784251809509>



We would also like to make you all aware that, unfortunately, prior to creating our official page, Facebook automatically generated a page based on what people liked and where they were checking in at the time. This page (pictured right) is in no way affiliated with our high school and states this within the page. Due to the large amount of people who have liked the generated page, this is the page that will appear before our official page when people search Finley high School.



We have been advised to make you all aware of the two pages and the differences you will find.

- As you can see our official page has our school logo as the profile picture
- A direct picture of our front office area is our cover photo.
- At this moment we have 742 likes
- Our official page About Description states; Formed in 1961, it is located in the heart of the district, enrolling students from surrounding towns and the local farming communities.

We have reported the issue a number of times, communicated with Facebook and so far to no avail however are hoping with your help we can get this changed. We ask you all to have a look at which page you are following. If it is the Facebook generated page please dislike it to ensure you are getting the right information from our official site.

Staff List 2017

Principal: Mrs Helen McRae
Deputy Principal: Mrs Patricia Jackson

Mathematics:

Mr Nick Campbell (Head Teacher)
 Mr Graeme Beresford
 Mrs Anne Braybon
 Mr Dane Maxwell
 Mr Martin Piggin
 Mr Hamdy Soliman

English:

Mrs Veronica McNaught (Head Teacher)
 Mrs Kathy Dempster
 Mr Matthew Dodds
 Mrs Jacqui O'Bryan
 Ms Raeleen Wood (Year Ten Adviser)

HSIE:

Mr Matthew Whitty (Head Teacher)
 Mrs Kate Littlejohn
 Mrs Lois Manser
 Miss Madeline Philpot
 Miss Brittany Scott (Year Eight Adviser)

Science:

Mr Michael O'Leary (Head Teacher)
 Ms Michelle Archinal (Year Twelve Adviser)
 Mr Daryl Bird (Year Eleven Adviser)
 Mrs Nicole Close
 Mrs Robyn O'Leary (Head Teacher TAS)
 Ms Jane Ritchie
 Mr Gary Webb

PD/H/PE:

Ms Ellen Downey (Head Teacher)
 Mr Dane Maxwell
 Mr Tom McCarney (Boys Adviser and Sport Co-ordinator)
 Mrs Di Sexton (Year Seven Adviser)
 Mr Michael Tooke (Acting Head Teacher Support)

Library:

Ms Aileen Begbie
 Mrs Lois Manser

TAS:

Mrs Robyn O'Leary (Head Teacher)
 Mrs Jo Boake
 Miss Amy Brain (SRC)
 Mr Simon Clark
 Miss Vanessa Geeves
 Mr Garry Harding
 Mrs Tessa McNamara
 Mr Josh Renn (Chaplain)
 Mrs Amanda Street (Girls Adviser)
 Mrs Eliza Tobin

Careers:

Mrs Jenny Philpot
 Mrs Deb White

Support Teachers:

Mr Michael Tooke (Head Teacher)
 Miss Kate Allan-Georgas
 Ms Wendy Coates
 Ms Sally Marsden
 Ms Mel Stratton
 Mrs Liz Vance
 Mrs Jenny Wheeler

Counsellor: Ms Karen Andrews
Student Support Officer: Mrs Jodi Brown

School Administrative and Support Staff:

Mrs Roslyn Braine (School Administration Officer)
 Mrs Margaret Close
 Mrs Sarah Singleton
 Mrs Beth Rendell
 Mrs Gaye Maxwell
 Mrs Susan Fenaughty
 Mrs Judy Knight
 Mrs Sue Jarrott
 Mrs Suzanne Robertson
 Mr Brian O'Hora
 Mr Gordon Close

School Learning Support Officers:

Mr Will Eldridge
 Mr Sean Logie
 Mr Brian O'Hora
 Mrs Jenny O'Hora
 Miss Crystal Woodham
 Mrs Dim Wright

Bus Travel on a Purtills School Bus

If you are currently travelling to and from school on a Purtill's bus and need to make a one off trip on a different Purtills bus route you will need to complete a 'School bus temporary variation request' form.

Students who are requesting temporary travel, who do not currently travel on a Purtill's bus will need to complete a 'School bus temporary travel request' form.

Both of these forms are available from the front office at Finley High School and need to be completed and returned to Purtills prior to the first date of travel.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this please contact the front office on 03 5883 1344 or John Jacobs at Purtills on 1300 819 000.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Canteen Contact and Number
Mrs Kaylene Dawe 5883 1105
....LADIES, please note 10am start....

February

3	M Haintz, K Barry
6	K Lunn, J Russell
7	C Alexander
8	J Blackmore
9	S Barlow
10	C Moloney, T Clarke
13	A Lee, H Mortlock
14	R Lockhart, Michelle McGrath
15	T Doohan
16	J John
17	DAY OFF IN LIEU OF TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Finley High School P&C Meeting

Wednesday 8th February 2017
7pm in the staff common room
(School Admin. Building).

The P&C meet the second
Wednesday of the month.
Everyone is welcome to attend.

fhspandcassociation@gmail.com

Finley High School – 2017 Summer Menu

	Rolls	Sandwiches	Tubs of Salad	
Chicken Salad	\$4.70	\$4.30	Roast Chicken	\$4.50
Ham Salad	\$4.20	\$3.50	Ham	\$4.00
Tuna Salad	\$4.70	\$4.30	Tuna	\$4.50
Salad (no meat)	\$4.20	\$3.50	Salad (no meat)	\$4.00
Tuna	\$4.00	\$3.80	Extra beetroot, mayo and carrot	\$0.40
Roast Chicken	\$4.00	\$3.80		
Ham	\$3.30	\$3.30		
Cheese	\$2.50	\$2.50		
Tomato	\$2.20	\$2.20		
Egg/Curried	\$2.20	\$2.20		
Vegete	\$1.70	\$1.70		
Peanut Butter	\$1.70	\$1.70		
Ham and Cheese	\$3.50	\$3.50		
Buttered	\$1.40			
Wraps				
Roast Chicken	\$4.70			
Ham	\$4.20			
Hot				
Chicken Burger	\$5.00			
Hot Dogs	\$3.70			
+ Cheese	\$4.00			
Chicken Wrap	\$4.30			
Toasted sandwiches				
Ham and cheese	\$3.50			
Cheese	\$3.00			
			JJ's (flavoured)	\$1.00



Community Announcements

Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Information Session for Parents of Learner Drivers


Young drivers are three times more likely to be involved in casualty crashes. That's why the Roads and Maritime Services has introduced a new licensing scheme, with more supervised driving practice for learner drivers.

To help parents in supervising learner drivers, the Roads and Maritime Services has set up a FREE 2 hour workshop for parents that offers practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

The session will be conducted by David Riches on Tuesday March 7th at the Finley RSC from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Early bookings are essential, so phone David on 0434 964 764 now to reserve your place, or email

saferlearnerdrivers@gmail.com



AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS

Interested In The Defence Force
Then Join the **Australian Air Force Cadets!**

419 Squadron's *Open Day*

Saturday 18 February, 2017
0900 hours (9am) – 1500 hours (3pm)
110 Sobraon Street Shepparton (Somme Barracks)

BBQ Lunch

For more information on the Australian Air Force Cadets
WOFF (AAFC) Ray Bolton OAM ph: 0407 247 916 email: co.419sqn@aafc.org.au
www.aafc.org.au

GRANDPARENTS PARENTING

*A Monthly Support Group for Grandparents and Carers
& Foster Carers Raising Children*



Are you a Grandparent, Carer or Foster Carer of children?

Would you like an opportunity be a part of a group that offers:

- Understanding
- Education
- Friendship
- Shared experiences & Knowledge
- Parenting Strategies
- Support & Advocacy

Please join us monthly, to meet, discuss and support

'Grandparents Parenting'

the rewards, challenges and unique experiences.

Date: Commencing Monday 13th February, 2017

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Venue: Centacare Finley

2 Coree Street, Finley NSW 2713

Light Refreshments Provided

For further information or to register your interest please contact :

Tammy 0429 129 613 or Patricia 0448 772 010

Visit the office at 2 Coree Street, Finley



Or email: caulfieldt@centacareswnsw.org.au or weekesp@centacareswnsw.org.au



SCHOOL TRIP SUBSIDY CHANGES

What's happening?

From 20 December 2016, the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy will be progressively phased out and replaced with the new School Drive Subsidy.

This change will make it fairer for everyone who drives their children to school or to the nearest public transport location.

If you're a parent or guardian currently receiving the PVC subsidy, you can choose to stay on it or switch to the new School Drive Subsidy after 17 January 2017.

What are the main changes?

If you're driving one or more eligible students from the same household to the nearest public transport pick up point or to school, the new School Drive Subsidy will be paid 'per trip' (for the complete school trip). This 'per trip' payment is different from the current PVC subsidy, which is paid 'per student'.

Other differences include:

- A flat per kilometre rate (indexed annually to the cost of living) will apply under the School Drive Subsidy, unlike the flat payment per distance band in the current PVC subsidy.
- The requirement to do a special return trip each morning and afternoon will be removed.
- The 300km per trip payment cap will be removed.
- The limit of eight trips per year for distance education students to attend mini-schools during term time will be removed.
- The PVC subsidy rates will remain at 2017 levels in 2018 and beyond.
- Payments to third parties will stop (e.g. payments to a bus operator hired by parents from pooled PVC subsidy payments).

Note, you can't be on two schemes at the same time. If you add new students after 17 January 2017, **all** eligible students will automatically go onto the new School Drive Subsidy, including existing PVC subsidy students.

How do I check which scheme is better for me?

Check the comparison calculator at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

What do I need to do?

If you want to stay on the existing PVC subsidy, you don't need to do anything.

Assuming the school trip doesn't change, your payments will continue for all existing students until they leave school or until you need to re-apply because a student is moving up to Year 7 at high school.

If the school trip changes because you move homes or the student changes schools, you will need to re-apply under the new School Drive Subsidy.

Remember, you can't re-apply for the PVC subsidy after 20 December 2016, but you can switch to the new School Drive Subsidy at any time after 17 January 2017.

If you want to switch to the new School Drive Subsidy, apply online at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Just like the PVC subsidy, payments will be made twice a year, around August and February, based on the student's school attendance for the preceding semester.

The online application process only takes about 10-15 minutes to complete.

If you don't have access to the internet, feel free to call **131 500** for assistance.

After you've applied and been approved for the School Drive Subsidy, payments will be made automatically into your bank account twice a year.

You won't have to re-apply until a student reaches the end of Year 6, or until you next update any details – such as a change of school, school trip or address.

What happens if I stay on PVC now but want to add a new child later?

For new eligible students, you can either:

- Add the new student into the new School Drive Subsidy and also switch the existing students to the new scheme, or;
- Stay on the current PVC subsidy where existing students are covered, but not add any new students and not receive any additional subsidy.

What are the distance requirements under the School Drive Subsidy?

School year band	Minimum distance to school/TAFE	AND	Minimum distance to the nearest public transport pick up point (where available)
Infants and Primary students (Years K-6)	More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.3km walking distance		More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.3km walking distance
Secondary students (Years 7-12)	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance		More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance
TAFE	More than 3.2km walking distance		More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance

You can read about these changes in more detail at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Frequently asked questions

Which will be better for me - PVC or School Drive Subsidy?

It depends on:

- How many children you have on the scheme.
- The type of school they attend (boarding school, day school or mini-school).
- The distance you need to drive.
- If you have children to add to your school trips in the future.

You should consider staying on the PVC subsidy if you're receiving a PVC subsidy for more than one child.

We suggest you check which scheme is better for your individual circumstances by using the online comparison calculator at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

What are the School Drive Subsidy rates?

You can find the latest rates for the School Drive Subsidy and the PVC at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

The deadline for new applications for the existing PVC subsidy is 20 December 2016.

Keep in mind, if you stay on the current PVC subsidy, you won't be able to add new students after 17 January 2017 without switching all the existing PVC students to the new School Drive Subsidy.

Need more information?

Find out more, including examples of school trips, at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive or call 131 500.