

## **BUS POLICY**

Eligible children may be picked up by the Eudunda Area School buses each afternoon from the preschool. There can be **NO** access to buses in the mornings.

Eligibility is determined by Eudunda Area School and takes into account availability of seats, proximity to existing bus stops and individual circumstances. All applications for bus travel must be made to and approved by the Director and the Principal of the Area School. Written notification must be received by the Preschool prior to children being taken to the bus. It is the parent's responsibility to organise bus transport for their child, after discussing their child's eligibility with the Director. Application forms are available from the Director. Children living within the township of Eudunda are not eligible for bus travel.

Travelling home from Preschool by bus can be an important step in your child's transition to school and of course can be a great help in reducing travel for parents. In making your decision to apply for permission for your child to travel home from Preschool by bus, please consider the following points:

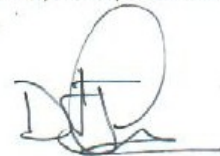
- Preschool can be very tiring for children, particularly in their first term. Some children cope better with their introduction to Preschool if they wait until their second term of Preschool to start bus travel. In response to DECD Guideline number 4, we will generally not recommend approval for a child until they are at least in their 3<sup>rd</sup> week of fulltime Preschool and are coping well.
- Preschool children can only access the school buses in the afternoon. There is **no provision for Preschool children to use the buses in the mornings**. Preschool children will be picked up by the school bus from the kindy site each afternoon.
- Children who are travelling on the bus wait at the Preschool with staff after the other children have left. These Preschool children will be picked up by the school bus from the kindy site in the afternoon.
- Generally the only adult on the school bus is the driver, so your child's maturity and confidence is an important consideration.
- Preschool children who live within the township of Eudunda are **not eligible** for travel.
- The school buses are generally quite full. The size and number of children can be quite overwhelming for a Preschool child particularly when they are tired at the end of the day/week. Some children are quite unprepared for the presence of the school children so a conversation about what going on the bus will 'look like' before they start bus travel is a good idea.
- Staff 'hand over' the child to the bus drivers.
- It is important that Parents **inform the Preschool staff when their child is not travelling on the bus**. Preschool staff will inform the area school.
- Parents need to arrange any change of approved buses and routes directly with Eudunda Area School. Arrangements **are not** to be made directly with Bus Drivers.

These points are not being made to deter parents from putting their child on the bus, rather, to make sure that parents and their children are prepared for all that is involved in school bus use.

Thankyou.



Sandy Keith  
Preschool Director



David Cluse  
Principal

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understood the information regarding bus travel by my child. I have read and understand the **DECD code of safety for children and parents/caregivers in and around school buses**

I understand the Principal of Eudunda Area School is responsible for the management and day-to-day operations of school buses.

I understand that I need to **inform the Preschool staff when their child is not travelling on the bus and that I need to arrange any change of approved buses and routes directly with Eudunda Area School and that arrangements are not to be made directly with Bus Drivers.**

I understand that I must meet my child at the set-down point/s and that bus drivers are instructed **not to drop children off if there is no parent present to collect them**. These children will be returned to Eudunda area school until a parent can collect them.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_