



School Bus Travel Information

Iona College provides students with several options to access bus services to and from school:

- Iona College Chartered Bus Service
- Regional Country Bus Service
- Public Bus (or Train) Service

The cost of transport and eligibility for Conveyance Allowance is determined by a student's place of residence. In 2023, the College made the decision to have seatbelts on all buses that travel in a 100km zone, resulting in the creation of a two-tiered bus fee structure.

Some students will require a transport link to a specified pickup (exchange) point and then transfer onto an Iona Chartered (Private) Bus Service.

Students are only permitted to travel on their allocated bus. Ad hoc travel between services is not allowed.

Student Travel Behaviour

Bus safety is very important to us and is a shared responsibility. In the interest of safety for students, the driver and members of the public, safety rules must always be followed whilst travelling on Iona College Chartered services and McHarry's Bus services.

Students and families are required to complete an Iona College 'Bus Code of Conduct' form prior to the student commencing travel on the Iona College Chartered Bus Service.

To ensure the safety and comfort of all, students behaving poorly, dangerously and/or disrespectfully, may be excluded from using this service at the discretion of the College delegate.

Conveyance Allowance

Conveyance Allowance is a form of financial assistance for parents/carers to help cover the costs associated with transporting children to and from school. Conveyance Allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public bus/train or private bus/vehicle.

Eligibility criteria:

- Student resides 4.8km or further from their school
- Student must be attending their nearest co-educational Catholic secondary college. Where a student is not attending their nearest co-educational Catholic secondary college (eg. St Ignatius, Drysdale), they will only be eligible if they had applied for enrolment at their nearest school and then obtained a letter from that school stating that an enrolment place was not available.

Once you have checked that you are eligible for Conveyance Allowance, please see the following information for instructions specific to your local bus transport system.

Please note: A Conveyance Allowance application form does not need to be completed each year unless there is a change of residential address (and you continue to meet all other eligibility criteria).

Change of Address

If there is a change of address during enrolment and your child(ren) will still be needing to travel on the Iona College Chartered Bus Service (and continue to meet the abovementioned Conveyance Allowance eligibility criteria), please notify the College and complete the relevant Conveyance Allowance application Form with your new address details on it.

Iona College Chartered Bus Service

Iona College (privately) charters a fleet of buses from McHarry's Buslines to transport students to/from College from multiple locations around Geelong, the Bellarine Peninsula and Surfcoast areas.

BusMinder, an innovative bus monitoring system, is installed on these buses and allows the College to track where our buses are located in real time and what students are on the bus. Parents are also able to view where their child's allocated bus is and when and where their child taps on and off their bus via the BusMinder parent app.

Students will receive a PTV School Student ID card during Term 1 to access this service and are required to use this card to tap on and tap off when boarding and exiting the Iona College chartered buses. Alternatively, students can choose to purchase a wristband to use to tap on and off our buses with.

Please note: Routes for the fleet of Iona College chartered buses are determined towards the end of each year (for the next school year) following the comprehensive mapping of bus student addresses and can therefore change from year-to-year. These buses do not follow public bus routes and to reduce travel time, they do not stop at every (public bus) stop point along the way. Regular drivers will recognise our students by the students wearing their Iona College uniform.

Regional Country Bus Service

The Regional Bus Coordinator is based at Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College.

Students travelling from the following locations are required to complete an Application for Permission to Travel form available on the Student Travel page of the Iona College website. Bus Passes are not issued for this travel.

Aireys Inlet, Anakie, Anglesea, Bambra, Bannockburn, Barrabool, Batesford, Bellbrae, Bells Beach, Buckley, Ceres, Deans Marsh, Fairhaven, Freshwater Creek, Gheringhap, Gnarwarre, Inverleigh, Lethbridge, Little River, Lorne, Maude, Meredith, Modewarre, Moorabool, Moriac, Mt Moriac, Ombersley, Paraparap, Shelford, She Oaks, Stonehaven, Teesdale, Wensleydale, Winchelsea, Wingeel & Wurdiboluc.

Public Bus/Train Service

McHarry's Buslines and V/Line operate transport services connecting to an Iona College Chartered Bus Service.

From January 1, 2026, the State Government is making public transport free for all students under 18 through the introduction of a new 'Myki Youth Pass'. Parents/carers will therefore no longer need to submit a copy of the receipt of the purchase of a Regional Student (half-yearly or yearly) Myki Pass to Iona College for claiming and reimbursement through the Conveyance Allowance process whilst their young one(s) remain under the age of 18.

Students who are aged 18, travelling on a public bus or train and residing 4.8kms or further from the College may be eligible for a full refund for the cost of a yearly or half-yearly (Regional Student) Myki pass. Parents/carers who elect to still purchase a Regional Student (half-yearly or yearly) Myki Pass once their young one(s) turn 18 are encouraged to submit a copy of the purchase receipt to conveyance@iona.vic.edu.au for claiming / reimbursement through the Conveyance Allowance process.

The cost is claimed on your behalf and credited to your school fee account.

Please take your child's PTV School Student ID to either Lara, Geelong or Marshall station to purchase your Regional Student yearly (or half yearly) pass.

Please note: Students travelling from areas such as Leopold, Ocean Grove, Queenscliffe, Drysdale and some areas of Barwon Heads will not be attending their nearest co-educational Catholic College (i.e. St Ignatius, Drysdale) and will require a letter from that (closer) school stating that an enrolment place was not available.

Parents/carers of students accessing the public bus/train service are required to complete a Multi-mode Conveyance Allowance application form.

For information regarding regional train and bus services please refer to [McHarry's website](#) or [V/Line](#) website

Please note: We recommend that train travellers download the V/Line App for service announcements and cancellations.

Helpful Contacts

Iona College

Bus Coordinator

Phone: (03) 5229 0004 (then Option 2)

Email: conveyance@iona.vic.edu.au

Website: [Iona College Student travel](#)

McHarry's Buslines

Phone: (03) 5223 2111

Website: <https://mcharrys.com.au/>