



Policy Name	Students Driving to School Policy
School Name	Virginia College
Date of Ratification of Policy by the Board of Management	5 th November 2024
Date of Scheduled Review of Policy by Board of Management	November 2024
Signature Chair Board of Management	<p>Engagement with student council October 2024</p> <p>Engagement with parents (association) October 2024</p> <p>Engagement with staff August 2024</p>

Table of Contents

1. Students Driving to School Policy	3
1.1. Aims:	3
1.2. Requirements for Students Driving Cars to School:	3
2. Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form.....	4
3. Appendix A.....	5

1. Students Driving to School Policy

Any student that holds a valid full driver's licence who intends to drive to school (on either a regular or occasional basis), must comply with the school policy and is required to complete the Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form.

1.1. Aims:

- To closely monitor the use of motor vehicles by students on the school premises;
- To minimise the potential risk of injury or incident related to the use of student motor vehicles.

1.2. Requirements for Students Driving Vehicles to School:

- Student drivers and a parent/guardian must sign the Parent permission and Student Agreement Form.
- Students must hold a full driver's license and be properly insured.
 - A student who is a learner driver cannot drive to school unaccompanied.
 - Students who are learner drivers must have an appropriately qualified accompanying driver (that is, a person who has held a full driving licence in the same category for a continuous period of 2 years).
 - If a learner driver is found driving without an appropriately qualified driver the learner driver has committed an offence and is liable for a fixed charge fine or penalty points, or both as per <http://www.rsa.ie/en/>
- Students are required to adhere to all road rules and drive in a safe and responsible manner, including adhering to all school signage such as speed limits on school grounds.
- Students are only to use their vehicle for travelling to and from school.
 - Students are not permitted under any circumstances to drive from the school grounds during the day.
 - This is a breach of the Code of Behaviour and would be dealt with as such
- If a student who drives, needs to leave school early, he/she must sign out using the normal school procedure.
- A copy of the student driver's licence details; insurance details; and car make must be recorded with the school.
- Students are not permitted to carry other students as passengers to and from school unless it is a sibling.
 - In exceptional circumstances, if a passenger who is not a sibling will be travelling with the student driver, written permission from the parent of that student needs to be provided.
- Student drivers are not permitted to drive to, or give lifts to, school matches/trips.
- Consequences will apply where students fail to meet these obligations. These include but are not limited to the temporary or permanent removal of driving/parking privileges, the handing in of car keys to the school office on a daily basis; other school based sanctions as detailed in the Code of Behaviour.
- Any unsafe driving behaviour or breaches of road rules will be reported to the Gardaí.

2. Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form

This form must be completed by any student who intends to drive to school either occasionally or regularly.

Student Name _____

Car Make/Model _____

Colour and Registration Number _____

Parent Permission

I give permission for _____ to drive to school. I am aware of the rules of the road and the school requirements regarding students driving to school.

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

Date: _____

Student

I _____ agree to adhere to the rules of the road and the requirements of Virginia College regarding students driving a car to school.

Signature of Student:

Date: _____

***Note: A photocopy of the student's driver licence and Insurance details must be attached to this form.**

School Approval

Approved by: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

3. Appendix A



Dear Parent/Guardian

Student Driving to School

Your son/daughter has indicated that he/she intends to drive to school this year. As such the school's policy on student drivers will have to be adhered to.

Even though most young drivers try to be careful, safety conscious and considerate when driving, research clearly shows that they are at a higher risk of having a serious crash than older, more experienced drivers. The presence of young passengers also greatly increases the risk for teenage drivers and, the more passengers, the greater the risk.

It is important that all students and their parents/guardians are aware of these risks and the type of behaviour that Virginia College expects from student drivers. Copies of the school policy on student drivers and the Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form are attached. The policy outlines the school's expectations and provides information regarding the transport of passengers. **Of note is that student drivers are not permitted to carry other students as passengers to and from school unless it is a sibling.**

To ensure that all involved are aware of these requirements, student drivers and a parent/guardian are required to sign a Parent Permission and Student Agreement Form. The form must be signed and returned prior to students driving to school.

These requirements are intended to ensure the welfare and safety of students at our school and the local community.

Yours sincerely

Niall Lynch

Principal