

15th March 2011

Dear Parents

I'm sure you've seen one of these signs.
A no-U turn sign.



There's one of these facing you if you drive into the dead end section of Old Heidelberg Road between Lucerne Crescent and the school gates. It applies between 8.15am and 9.15am and between 3pm and 4pm.

If you drive into that section of road and there is no vacant unrestricted parking space to turn into, there's no way you can avoid breaking the law. You either stop in a no standing zone, which is against the law, or park in the middle of the road, which is obviously against the law, or turn around and drive out, which is also against the law at those times.

You may drive or, even worse, reverse into a driveway, in order to turn around. That involves you driving across the footpath at the very time students are coming out of school.

City of Yarra placed that sign and the parking restrictions there, with the full support of the school, in order to try to minimise vehicle manoeuvres in that area of the street at peak drop-off and pick-up times.

Why?

For the safety of the children and the adults walking into and out of school.

While most of you understand this and observe the rules, there are some parents who habitually ignore the signs.

Why?

When I challenge them, as I often do, there's always an excuse. It's raining. The baby's asleep in the car. They're running late for a doctor's appointment. The idea appears to be that it's ok to make an exception in this special case.

That just undermines the whole system. I suspect, if there were a terrible accident, all those excuses would look pretty feeble.

The safety of children, teenagers and adults using the footpaths and crossing the roads around the school IS PARAMOUNT. There is no acceptable excuse for ignoring the signs. They apply to everyone.

And please also observe the time limits on parking in Lucerne Crescent. All parents have children to pick up and need to park. So please do not overstay your time, either by arriving too early or leaving too late. Arrive, park, collect your child(ren) and move on. If you need to stay longer to talk to a teacher, pay an account or visit the second-hand uniform shop, please park in the unrestricted area further down the road.

Traffic and parking are tight around Alphington Grammar School, but no worse than around most independent schools. However the goodwill of everyone is needed to ensure that children can be dropped off and picked up in a safe and efficient manner.

[My School website](#)

I urge you all to check out Alphington Grammar on the new My School website.

The data given reflects very positively on the school. Our income per student is right on the average for independent schools nationally and well below the average for Victorian independent schools. Our percentage of Year 12 students going on to university (74%) is up with the best schools and well above many of our competitors in all sectors. Our NAPLAN results are very good, well ahead of national averages in most instances and comparing very well with those of “similar” schools. On the colour coding we get plenty of green and no red at all, which is how every school would want it.

Have a look at our secondary Numeracy results in particular. They are better than virtually all surrounding schools, including a number with fees to match their high reputations.

Swimming victory

On March 10 the Alphington Grammar Secondary Swimming Team won its EISM divisional carnival, sweeping the board by winning the Girls’ Championship, the Boys’ Championship and the overall competition with an evenly good performance across all age groups. Congratulations to all swimmers and to their coach Steve Viccars.

With best wishes

Mike Smith
Principal

TERM 2 2011

Th 28-Apr	TERM TWO BEGINS - Students		
Tue 3-May	EISM Div. 3 Athletics Carnival at Olympic Park VCE Unit 3 Biology to Gene Tech Access Centre Year 7 Girls Immunisation	Wed 1-June	Senior Sport vs Plenty Valley Christian School Year 12 Practice Exam
Thu 5-May	Year 12 students to LaTrobe Uni Info Session PTA Mother’s Day Stall	Thu 2-June	Year 8/9 Sport vs Nunawading Adventist Academy Year 5 & 6 Cabaret
Sat 7-May	Bilingual Theatre Dinner Dance	Fri 3-June	Year 11 Exams begin
Sun 8-May	MOTHER’S DAY	Mon 6-June	Year 7 Sport vs Oakleigh Grk Orthodox College Year 9 & 10 Exams begin
Tu 10-May	NAPLAN; Year 5 - 12 Parent Teacher Interviews	Wed 8-June	ICAS Science Competition for Years 7 - 9
We 11-May	NAPLAN; Year 5 - 12 Parent Teacher Interviews	Thu 9-June	Year 8/9 Sport vs Donvale Christian College Year 9, 10 & 11 Exams end
Th 12-May	NAPLAN	Fri 10-June	Year 9, 10 & 11 Correction Day
Fr 13-May	KIDBODZ Visiting Junior School	M 13-June	Queen’s Birthday Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Mo 16-May	Life Education Van begins; Year 6 Day visit Year 7 Sport vs Bialik College	Tu 14-June	VCE JUNE EXAMS
Tu 17-May	Year 7 Girls Immunisation 9:00am & Staff Flu	We 15-June	VCE JUNE EXAMS
We 18-May	Senior Sport vs Oxley College (Rescheduled)	Th 16-June	VCE GAT
Th 19-May	Year 8/9 Sport vs Oxley College	Mo 20-June	Year 8/9 Sport vs Plenty Valley Christian School VCE Unit 2+4 Exams begin
Fri 20-May	Life Education Van ends	We 22-June	Year 10 Work Experience begins Year 7 Sport vs Donvale Christian College ‘Green’
Mo 23-May	EISM Athletics Champions Carnival at Olympic Park	Th 23-June	Senior Sport vs Donvale Christian College
We 25-May	Senior Sport vs Nunawading Adventist Academy	Mo 27-June	Year 8/9 Sport vs Oxley College Year 7 Sport vs King David School ‘Ways of Being Australian’ Year 7 Integrated Unit Launch
Th 26-May	Year 8/9 Sport vs Donvale Christian College	Tue 28-June	EISM Senior School Futsal Soccer Carnival
Mo 30-May	Junior School Book Parade Year 7 Sport vs Huntingtower School	We 29-June	Year 9 Metropolis Orientation Day Senior Sport vs Rudolf Steiner School
		Thu 30-June	WCMAD Presentation Year 8/9 Sport vs Oxley College ‘Blue’
		Fri 1-July	TERM TWO ENDS - Students & Staff