

The Transporter



January 2011

Happy New Year

Welcome to your first quarterly newsletter from the contracts team at Passenger Transport Services Branch.

Andrew, Mandy, Wolf and Jordyan make up the team and are available to help with any matters relating to your contract and the provision of safe, reliable student transport.

You might notice that David is not listed as part of the team. Sadly we said goodbye last month as we wished him well in his new job at the Dept. of Justice. We are in the process of filling the position of Payments Officer and will provide details in your April newsletter. In the meantime please continue to use 6233 5286 for enquiries about payments.

We trust that you find this newsletter useful. Our intention is to keep you up-to-date and share topics of interest. Each issue will feature information relating to the Bus Cost Model, the quarterly capital payment rates and a feature article or two.

School Term Dates 2011

Start dates for term one in State schools are:

- North & North West: Tues 15 February
- South: Wed 16 February

The finish date for term one in State schools is Fri 3 June. The Easter break is 22-29 April.

As the term dates for Catholic and Independent schools vary, we encourage you to contact the schools directly to find out their term dates.

Student Free Days

Once again this year, many schools will have student free days. We suggest operators liaise directly with local schools to find out their student free days.

When do you Need to Operate?

All operators with **Rural School Bus Contracts** or **Special Needs Contracts** are required to operate when school/s on the approved route are open.

Operators of **fare paying services** can make a business decision whether or not to operate when one or more schools have a student free day.

Please continue your usual practice of informing schools and parents, if your **fare paying bus** will not be operating because of student free days in some schools. This will allow them to make alternative travel arrangements for students.

Capital Payment Rates

The Capital Payment Rates have been calculated for the quarter commencing January 2011. As usual, the rates will appear on your Statement of Payment. The rates are:

	Oct '10	Jan '11
Urban Fringe Student Only	\$2.02	\$2.08
Rural Fare Paying	\$2.02	\$2.08
Long Distance Student Only	\$2.02	\$2.08
Long Distance General Access	\$3.19	\$3.16
Urban Fringe General Access	\$3.19	\$3.16
Urban	\$1.10	\$1.14
Town	\$1.10	\$1.14

Bus Cost Model (BCM)

The latest BCM calculator is available online by clicking the link at

www.transport.tas.gov.au/operator_information

Student Safety

As part of your accreditation, you are required to have in place written plans and procedures for emergencies. Does your plan include what to do if:

- a passenger is injured, or is unwell and requires treatment
- the bus breaks down or is involved in an accident?

Changing Buses

Whenever you change the bus on your contract, please remember to let us know so that we can update our records and adjust your payments if necessary.

Suspension Notices

To help us correctly file suspension notices, it would be appreciated if you could include the contract number on any notices you send to us.

Feedback

If you have any feedback for the contracts team, please feel free to contact us using the details below. We also welcome suggestions for future newsletters.

Contact Information

Andrew Mullen, Manager	6233 8207
Mandy Brown	6233 5187
Wolf Von Gehr	6233 5359
Jordyan Coombe	6233 5351
Payments Information	6233 5286

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This newsletter will be available online at www.transport.tas.gov.au/publications

School Mergers and Relocations

Romaine Park Primary School is scheduled to open after Easter. This new school is a merger between Acton, Brooklyn and Upper Burnie Primary Schools and will be located on the Parklands High School site.

Windermere Primary School is a merger between Claremont and Mt Faulkner Primary Schools. It will be located on the Claremont High School site. It is planned for students in grades 5 and 6 to start at the new school site on 16 Feb.

Austins Ferry Primary School is a merger between Abbotsfield and Roseneath Primary Schools and will be located on the Roseneath Primary School site. Students will start on 16 February.

Montrose Bay High School is a merger between Claremont High School and Rosetta High School and will be located on the old Rosetta High School site with a satellite Big Picture School in Goodwood. Term one will see all students at the new school, ie there will be no students remaining at Claremont High.

Kingston High School is relocating to Kingston View Drive and all students will start at the new site on 16 February.

Snippet Corner

Student Fares

There is no change to student fares. They remain the same as they were for 2010.

Student Bus Passes

All enquiries relating to student bus passes, including transfer passes, can be directed to 1300 851 225.

Top-up Claims

We have a new email address for submitting top-up claims ptscontracts@dier.tas.gov.au

CONTACT DETAILS

Passenger Transport Services Branch

LG floor, 10 Murray Street, Hobart Tas 7000 GPO Box 936, Hobart Tas 7001

Fax (03) 6233 5377 Email ptscontracts@dier.tas.gov.au



Tasmania

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