

Transport Policy for St Matthias Paddington youth groups

As at August 2005

Due to changing community standards and in the interests of caring for the youth in our groups as well as the leaders who serve them, we have adopted the following policies. Our desire is to honour God by being above reproach in all things, erring on the conservative, and taking due responsibility for our care of young lives.

We understand that these policies may cause some inconvenience in the short term but believe that they are a healthy way of caring for and supporting those who are involved in our youth ministries.

Please feel free to discuss these policies with either the Rector, Warwick de Jersey or the Evening Church Pastor, Dave Rogers.

1. Transport between homes and the church site before/after youth group

Policy: It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to either provide lifts or arrange alternative transport for their children to and from regular youth events.

Comments

- We encourage our youth leaders to be generous with their time and money (which they already are simply by being youth leaders).
- We encourage parents to exercise responsibility when asking youth leaders to provide lifts to/from the church site for their children. Contributing towards petrol costs is a helpful recognition of this responsibility, and of the generosity of the leader(s) involved. We also want to encourage our young people not to presume on their youth leaders for lifts to/from the church site, and to be appropriately grateful for the care they receive.

2. Transport while on youth group events

Policy: Only drivers on green P's or higher are to transport youth from the church site to the event or to the church site from any youth group event.

Comments

- In the situation where members of Pulse have red P's, we will also ask them not to drive their friends even where their friends provide permission personally.
- A leader on red P's may transport other leaders who are over 18 years and give their permission.

3. Child protection

Policy: A youth leader is not to be alone in a car with a member of youth group even with parental permission.

Comments

- An obvious exception is where the other occupant is another family member .
- This may mean dropping two young people off at one home, and parents then making the shorter trip to that home.
- In the situation of a parent not being able to pick up their child, we would endeavour to ask another parent to provide a lift, or for two leaders to take the young person home.