



January 2021 Update 1 - Transportation

Welcome to our first January update in preparation for the opening of Catherine McAuley Catholic College. The focus of this update is transportation, both bus and vehicular movements on campus. We urge all families to take a moment and read the information below as it relates to each student and family member who may enter the College campus.

We are committed to ensuring that students arrive and depart the College each day in a safe and efficient manner. As a result, an *Operational Transport and Access Management Plan (OTAMP)* has been designed and will be in force during continued road construction to Medowie Road. Once completed, these procedures will be reviewed and updated to reflect the additional vehicle and pedestrian entry and exit points to campus.

The safety of our students is a community responsibility and this can only be achieved with the support of parents and carers who access the campus. We ask that you are aware of and adhere to the following requirements.

School Bus Routes

Each of our three bus providers has been given approval by Transport of NSW to service our community. As the College continues to grow these services will be strengthened and added to over time. Bus routes are negotiated between transport providers and Transport for NSW. The College does not play an active role in these negotiations.

We ask that wherever possible students arrive and depart campus on a designated school bus. Especially during the completion of the road infrastructure, high patronage on these services limit vehicle congestion on campus and help ensure safe and efficient vehicle movements.

Information pertaining to each of the three bus operator's routes can be found below.

Busways

https://www.busways.com.au/sites/default/files/school_timetables/20210127/Catherine_McAuley_Catholic_College_-_Medowie.pdf

Port Stephens Coaches

<https://www.pskoaches.com.au/school-timetables/>

Hunter Valley Buses

https://www.cdcbus.com.au/images/files/school-timetables/huntervalley/H_Catherine_McAuley_College.pdf

School Shuttle Service

As has previously been discussed, during the continued road construction on Medowie Road, students living close to campus who would normally walk to school are being catered for by the College shuttle services that will operate each morning and afternoon. This service will ferry students from South Street to the College and back in the afternoon. Until the final completion of all road infrastructure (scheduled for the second half of 2021) there will be no pedestrian access to the College.

The service is being operated by Sid Foggs Coaches and the scheduled times are below.



INSERT SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE

Vehicle Movements on Campus

During peak morning and afternoon periods, it is of great importance that each driver be aware of traffic flows and driver expectations.

The image below details the movement of vehicles on campus during the ongoing period of construction to Medowie Road.

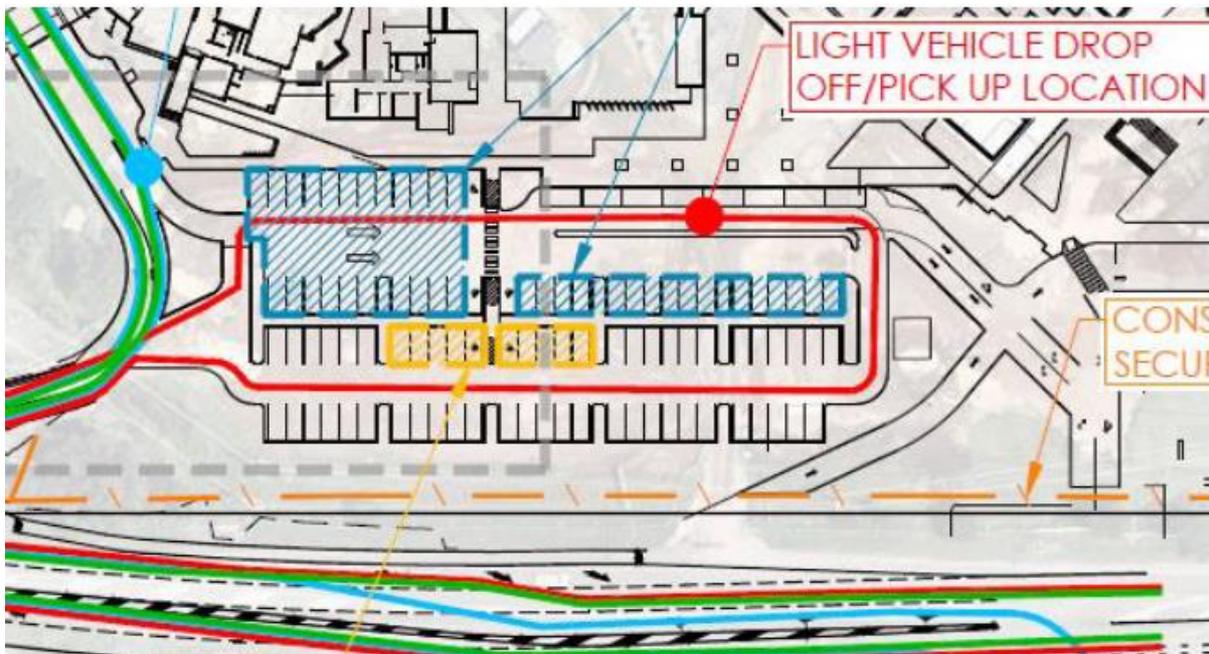
Red line = light vehicles

Green and Blue lines = bus movements.

Blue parks = staff parking only

Yellow parks = Early Childhood Centre parent parking.

NB: A more extensive diagram is provided as an appendix to this document



As you will note, there is a point of confluence for buses and light vehicles entering and exiting the College. This will be the case until the completion of road works scheduled to be the second half of 2021. At this time there will be a clear separation of bus and light vehicle traffic.

All drivers please note:

- Buses have the right of way entering, moving through and exiting campus.
- If you see a vehicle approach the pinch point identified above, please wait and allow the vehicle to pass.
- There is a marked pedestrian crossing in the main College carpark. Please treat it like any other and give pedestrians appropriate right of way.
- Our campus is shared with St Nicholas Early Learning. Please be aware that there may be very young children present in this space.



Vehicle access to Campus Kiss and Drop Zone

During the ongoing construction taking place on Medowie Road, there will be an interim set of procedures for vehicles entering and exiting campus to drop off or collect students at the end of the school day.

There is a designated Kiss and Drop area located at the northern corner of Coolock House and adjacent to the College Chapel. The following procedures apply to the use of this area:

Morning Kiss and Drop

- No Vehicles are to stand in this area.
- Should drivers need to leave the vehicle they are required to use the parking spaces in the lower side of the carpark rather than the Kiss and Drop. (NB Parking shaded in blue in the above image is staff parking only)
- Drivers must remain in the vehicle.
- Students exit the vehicle from the passenger side only to avoid doors opening in the through lane.
- The most efficient Kiss and Drop operates when vehicles move forward through the Kiss and Drop zone in a single line rather than pulling out before other cars which creates delays for others.

Afternoon Kiss and Drop

- The Kiss and Drop area will be available once the bell has gone and children are available to be picked up. Prior to this the Kiss and Drop can be closed off.
- Drivers arriving prior to the school bell are to use available parking spaces rather than the Kiss and Drop zone.
- Vehicles are asked to display the Surname on the passenger sun-visor to assist with the prompt loading of students.
- Drivers are to remain in the car and students are to load into the car from the passenger side only.
- Students walking to parked vehicles in the carpark are to remain on designated pedestrian walkway areas rather than walk through the carpark.
- Staff will be on supervision to support an efficient process. Drivers are asked to comply with any direction given by a member of the College staff.

(Operational Transport and Access Management Plan, November 2020 pg. 7)

Conclusion

There will naturally be a settling in period as this is a new facility serviced by continuing road infrastructure upgrades. The aim of this document has been to, as much as possible, eliminate confusion and provide a framework for the safe and efficient movement of students to and from campus each day.

When driving on campus we ask that your top priority be the safety of your vehicle and those around you. As the College continues to grow and with the completion of the road works there will be the need to update the procedures outlined above. We ask that as parents and carers you work with College staff to ensure that a safe and efficient process is maintained.



Catherine McAuley
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MEDOWIE

If you have any questions regarding the above please Assistant Principal Peter Antcliff (peter.antcliff@mn.catholic.edu.au).



Appendix – Diagram of Vehicle Movements on Campus

