

Bale's Farm Policy on Students Driving Their Own Cars

1. Purpose

This policy establishes guidelines for students who drive and park their personal vehicles on Bale's Farm property. The aim is to ensure safety, maintain order in traffic, and protect the welfare of students, staff, and visitors.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all students who operate or park privately owned vehicles on Bale's Farm premises, including parking areas, roadways, and other designated locations within the Bale's Farm company.

3. Eligibility to Drive to and from Sites

Students may drive their own vehicles to sites provided that they:

- Possess a **valid driver's license** issued by the relevant authority.
- Ensure the vehicle is **properly registered, taxed, and insured** in accordance with applicable laws.

Bale's Farm reserves the right to deny or revoke permission for a student to bring a vehicle onto site.

4. Parking Regulations

Students must comply with the following parking requirements:

- Vehicles must be parked **only in designated parking areas**.
- Parking in **entrances, pathways, or restricted areas** is strictly prohibited.
- Vehicles must not block traffic flow, emergency access routes, or accessible parking areas.

Owners of improperly parked vehicles will be asked to move to a designated area.

5. Speed Limits and Safe Driving

Students must operate their vehicles responsibly while on sites:

- Adhere to all **local speed limits**.
- **Pedestrians always have the right of way**.
- Reckless or unsafe driving behaviours are strictly prohibited, including:
 - Speeding
 - Racing
 - Excessive noise
 - Using mobile phones while driving

Violations may result in disciplinary action.

6. Transporting Other Students and Leaving Sites

Students who bring a personal vehicle onto Bale's Farm premises are strictly prohibited from transporting other students in their vehicle during the college day, including before, during, or between scheduled lessons, study periods, or lunch breaks.

Students must not leave the sites with another student in a privately owned vehicle during the day, whether as a driver or passenger, unless the activity has been formally authorised in advance by the Bale's Farm Leadership Team, a designated member of staff, and with written permission from all students' parents/carers.

This restriction applies regardless of:

- Whether the journey is short or local
- Whether the travel occurs during free periods or lunch breaks

The purpose of this rule is to ensure the safety, supervision, and safeguarding of all students, and to protect Bale's Farm from liability associated with unsupervised student transport.

Any student found to be:

- Transporting another student during the school day, or
- Leaving the sites with another student in a private vehicle without authorisation

will be considered to be in breach of Bale's Farm safeguarding and vehicle policies.

Sanctions may include:

- Immediate revocation of permission to bring a vehicle onto sites
- Disciplinary action in accordance with the Bale's Farm Behaviour Policy
- Notification to parents or guardians
- Further action where Bale's Farm considers there to be a safeguarding concern

Bale's Farm reserves the right to withdraw student parking privileges at any time if they believe the use of a vehicle presents a risk to student welfare or the orderly operation of the sites.

7. Responsibility and Liability

Students are fully responsible for their vehicles and their conduct while driving to and from sites.

Bale's Farm:

- **Accepts no responsibility** for theft, loss, or damage to vehicles or personal property left in vehicles.
- May report serious violations to **local law enforcement authorities** where necessary.

8. Environmental Considerations

Students are encouraged to:

- Avoid unnecessary idling of engines.

- Follow any Bale' Farm environmental or sustainability initiatives.

9. Violations and Disciplinary Action

Failure to comply with this policy may result in:

- Verbal or written warnings
- Suspension or revocation of site driving privileges
- Referral to the Bale's Farm Behaviour Policy and meetings with parents/carers.

Repeated or serious violations may result in further action.

10. Policy Review

Bale's Farm reserves the right to review and amend this policy to ensure the safety of the Bale's Farm community and compliance with relevant regulations.

Policy Review Date: September 2026

