

We live in Toodyay and our children attend Swan Christian College in Middle Swan. They both started high school at SCC when there was a private bus service from Toodyay to the school. The private bus hasn't been running now for 2 years and we have been transporting the children too and from school ourselves, and car pooling with another mum. When the private bus service ceased our eldest was going into year 11 and we didn't want to change schools at that point and now we are in the same position again with our youngest. The school bus service has always considered Mundaring Christian College to be our closest Christian school, even though there has never been any transport service available to get there, and so our community has never received any assistance from the government to get our children to SCC. As Toodyay school only goes up to year 10, our children had to change schools at some point and we wanted them to spend their high school years at one school. It wasn't until our eldest was in year 6 that St Joseph's school in Northam announced they would be expanding to year 12 and by that time we had committed to SCC. We chose SCC over Northam high school due to the variety of courses and subject choices available at SCC, which is also why we didn't stay at St Joseph's in Northam. The parents of the students travelling to SCC would appreciate some assistance to get our children to school. We aren't asking for a free ride, but appreciate a subsidised service to make it more accessible. I believe that a subsidised service would entice more students to enrol in the school, particularly with having the hospitality and workshop certificate/pre apprenticeship courses on offer, given the farming/tourist nature of our community. Some students left SCC when the private bus service ended and others haven't enrolled due to lack of bus service so I don't think current student numbers truly reflect the demand.

We would appreciate your consideration in providing a subsidised bus service for our students to attend SCC