

As a parent and business owner in Kondinin, the current school bus situation greatly affects our family.

Kondinin PS does not have a Kondinin specific bus that brings children into the school. Children have to catch the Kulin/Hyden bus into town.

This bus is designed for secondary students who wish to travel to Kulin from Hyden/Karlgarin/Kondinin to Kulin DHS. It also takes Kondinin town primary children out of town to Kulin. This is at tax payers expense.

As a result of this, numbers have drastically decreased in the Kondinin Primary School, at which my two older children attend in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. My son is currently the only [REDACTED] student in Kondinin Primary School. Although he is in a classroom with older students, this affects his ability to successfully communicate with children the same age. As a child with autism, a major part of his personal development is social communication with other children and he is unable to achieve this to the fullest potential possible.

Many people new to town assume that the only schooling option is Kulin or Narembeen. They do not even consider or consult our wonderful school to see what is on offer. This impacts the town as a whole as we could have so many families potentially move to town which would not only increase the school but also impact local businesses positively as well, including my own, a diesel mechanic workshop located in the town of Kondinin. Instead, families are choosing to live in other towns for the convenience of the school they are sending their child to being closer.

Unfortunately, Kondinin PS is currently missing out on about \$7100 per student on those who seek education out of town. This is a huge number that should be going back into the Primary School to provide resources to the children that would help further their education.

Children who are educated out of town generally end up playing sport out of town. Their parents often shop out of town etc. This impacts our wider community, including local businesses such as my own.

If numbers were to decrease due to children being sent elsewhere to school, parents will shop in other towns and seek business closer to their child's school. This is obviously an undesirable outcome as Kondinin town provides many wonderful resources that should be used by locals rather than outsourcing to other town simply for convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rebecca Gleeson  
Parent and business owner in Kondinin 6367