



Monday, January 16, 2012

Students get going back to school

TransLink is urging parents to make themselves aware of new and changed school services and to ensure their child's *go card* is topped up and ready for school next week [Monday January 23].

TransLink Acting CEO Matt Longland said TransLink is adding new services and making changes to some school routes for the new school year.

"These changes have been designed to improve service frequency, bus connections and help minimise the need for students to change buses," Mr Longland said.

"Also having TransLink's *go card* makes it quicker and easier for children to get to and from school.

"Travel credit stays on the *go card* so children can always travel and, if registered, their *go card* balance is protected if it is lost or stolen.

"Registering a *go card* is easy by calling 13 12 30, 24 hours a day seven days a week.

"Many parents are also using automatic top-up for their child's *go card* so they will always have enough credit to get home."

Mr Longland said TransLink staff would be out in force in the lead up to the new school year, helping students at major stations with any questions they may have about *go card*.

"I urge parents to visit the TransLink website www.translink.com.au or call 13 12 30 to check if your local school bus route has changed.

"The TransLink website has other information on *go card* concession eligibility and the journey planner for how to get to your school or university campus using public transport."

Mr Longland said more than eight million trips were made on school bus routes across South East Queensland each year.

"Public transport is value for money for full-time students and their families as they receive a 50 per cent discount using their concession or child *go card*.

"*go cards* are available from 570 outlets, including all attended train stations across the TransLink train network as well as major newsagents and convenience stores."

Queensland full-time primary and secondary school students are eligible for a child *go card* up to and including their 15th birthday.

Secondary students who are 15 years or over should buy a concession *go card*, as should all other eligible full-time university, TAFE or other approved post-secondary institution students.

More information about the School Transport Assistance Scheme is available on the department's website www.tmr.qld.gov.au/schooltransport.

Media: TransLink media unit on 0421 581 803 (24 hours)