

# Australasian Democratic Education Community Conference 2016

26-28 September @ Koonwarra Village School

## Koonwarra

Koonwarra Village School is located in Koonwarra, in the South Gippsland region of Victoria. It is approximately 90 minutes drive from Melbourne (132kms). The village is in the heart of dairy country, nestled between the rolling hills of the Strezlecki Ranges, and within easy access to the world heritage Wilsons Promontory National Park. Koonwarra is a small rural village that actively demonstrates 'sustainable living', being the first 'Waste Wise Village' in Australia.



## Transport to and from Melbourne airport:

*From Melbourne airport by car:*

From Melbourne airport the journey begins on the Tullamarine Freeway that runs from the airport towards the city. Follow the M1 signs on Citylink\* through to the southern suburbs and the domain tunnel. Once on the M1, take the Cranbourne and Phillip Island exit (M420). This will get you onto the South Gippsland Highway. Continue on the M420 for approximately 34 km, then take the Korumburra and Leongatha exit, route A440. By the time you reach the township of Loch you have begun to experience the beauty of the rolling green hills of the Prom Country region. Continue through Korumburra and Leongatha and the next town is Koonwarra.

By taxi the cost from the airport to the city is approximately \$50-\$60

If you want to be able to travel more independently during your visit to the conference, you might consider hiring a car. You can find one at the airport as there are several car rental operators.

*\*With travel on CityLink please keep in mind that there are no cash booths. A pass or account is required for travel. Passes for CityLink can be purchased online at [www.citylink.com.au](http://www.citylink.com.au), by phone on 13 26 29 (24 hours, 7 days), from Australia Post outlets, participating newsagencies, major Coles Express outlets and at the CityLink Customer Centre. Passes can be purchased prior to travel or up to midnight 3 days after you travel. e-TAG devices can be used on all tollways in New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria.*

## By Public Transport:

### *Melbourne airport by bus to city*

SkyBus operates a single route express between Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine) and Southern Cross Station in Melbourne's city centre, 24/7 with day departures every 10 minutes. You can catch the SkyBus kerbside at arrivals at Terminal 1 (T1), Terminal 3 (T3) and Terminal 4 (T4). SkyBus ticket booths are located at all terminals or you can buy online and proceed directly to the bus. It takes about 20-30 minutes from the airport to the city. Tickets start from \$19 one way. SkyBus also connects with country rail services and trams and other bus services at the Southern Cross Station bus interchange. Details for getting to Koonwarra by bus are below.

### *Melbourne city by bus to Koonwarra*

V/Line bus services operate between Southern Cross Station in Melbourne to/from South Gippsland and run several times daily. For a bus timetable and associated information, please click on the links below or phone 136 196. There are more regular buses to Leongatha (the town before Koonwarra, about 10 minutes away).

### *Useful Links To Help Plan Your Journey:*

- [V/Line Passenger – Yarram/Leongatha route timetable](#)
- [V/Line Passenger - General public transport information](#)
- [Public Transport Victoria - Metropolitan Tram and Train Information](#)
- [V/Line - Downloadable map of V/Line services in Victoria \(PDF\)](#)

### *Conference travel:*

The school does have a mini-bus and will assist where possible for pick-ups and drop-offs from nearby accommodation or towns. Once we know where everyone who needs transport is staying we can confirm how we can assist with transport to and from school. For those travelling from interstate or overseas if you wish to be fully independent you may be best to consider a rental car.

## Accommodation:

### *Billeting*

Billeting is available with Koonwarra Village School families – numbers are limited. KVS families will provide visitors with breakfasts and assist with transportation during the conference.

### *Other*

You are welcome to arrange your own accommodation for the conference. As we are located in a small regional village, Air BnB options are the closest. For those seeking accommodation in a seaside setting, Inverloch is recommended or the other nearest town would be Leongatha. Suggested accommodation options are below:

#### Air BnB options, within 10 minutes drive of KVS...

- [Emerald Hills Cottage](#) (starting from \$130 night) – closest to Koonwarra. Can accommodate upto 5 guests
- [The Bush Bungalow](#) (starting from \$65 night) – can accommodate up to 4 guests
- [Country Gables - Cosy Farm Cottage](#) (starting from \$131 night) – approximately 3km from Koonwarra, accommodates upto 2 guests
- [The Wine Farm Cottage](#) (starting from \$150 night) – Koonwarra Inverloch Rd, can accommodate upto 6 guests
- [Three Springs Cottage Retreat](#) (starting from \$120 a night) - whilst not an Air BnB option the location is a few km's down the road – can accommodate upto 4 guests

#### Leongatha accommodation 10 minutes drive of KVS...

Leongatha is a country town less than 10 minutes from Koonwarra. The accommodation options are short-term holiday rentals, motels or caravan parks.

- [Opal Motel](#)
- [Leongatha Motel](#)
- [Apex Caravan Park](#)

#### Inverloch accommodation, 15-20 minutes drive of KVS...

[Inverloch](#) is a popular seaside town less than 20kms from Koonwarra. There is a range of accommodation options for Inverloch from resorts (RACV and Broadbeach) to short-term holiday rentals, motels or caravan parks. The local [Visitor information centre](#) will book accommodation at no charge.

## **Koonwarra weather in late September:**

In springtime in South Gippsland the maximum temp is around 16 °C and minimum temp around 6 °C. You can experience many seasons in a day and wind is more prevalent in Spring so layers are your best option. It is a beautiful time, as the region comes to life with blossoms and daffodils.

*We look forward to meeting you at the conference.*