



Australian High Commission
Solomon Islands

MEDIA RELEASE

Australia Supports Safeguarding Training for Honiara School Bus Drivers and Conductors

24 APRIL 2026

Australia is supporting safer school transport in Honiara through targeted safeguarding training for school bus drivers and conductors from the Honiara City Council (HCC) school bus service.

On 10 April, eight drivers and conductors - including both women and men - successfully completed a half-day safeguarding training designed to strengthen child protection and student safety. The training was also attended by HCC Human Resources Manager and Bus Service Secretary, Mr Noel Kinika.

The session strengthened participants' understanding of child protection principles, professional conduct, safeguarding risks, and clear reporting and referral pathways—helping ensure the safety and wellbeing of students during daily travel to and from school.

Mr Kinika said the training reinforced HCC's commitment to delivering child-safe public services.

"This child protection training equips our bus drivers and conductors with the knowledge and responsibility to recognise, prevent and respond to risks to children's safety and wellbeing," Mr Kinika said.

The initiative was delivered through the Solomon Islands–Australia Partnership: Stronger Education Together (SET), in collaboration with HCC and the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development.

Following the training, Australia will also provide uniforms for school bus personnel, including long pants, shoes and safety vests, to support professional standards and clear identification.

Safeguarding awareness posters will also be installed inside buses to promote respectful behaviour and inform students about how to report concerns.

Media enquiries: Mr Andrew Muratore, Australian High Commission, 7607 148

PHOTOS:



Caption 1: Group photo of participants with their certificates, HCC HRM, DFAT reps, SET members and ASIPs+ members.



Caption 2: Participants during the quiz session in the training.



Caption 3: Group activity during the training.



Caption 4: Group activity during the training.



Caption 5: Group activity during the training.