

BUS CODE OF CONDUCT

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your son/daughter regularly travels to and/or from school and on excursions on a school bus. The majority of students who travel on these buses are responsible and well behaved. A minority, however misbehave on the bus and their actions may affect the ability of drivers to concentrate, possibly leading to situations where the safety of those on the bus are compromised. Therefore, a Code of Conduct for bus travel has been developed for bus travellers.

The “Code of Conduct” is a set of behavioural guidelines for students to follow when travelling on school buses. It also includes procedures that drivers are to follow when managing student behaviour associated with school bus travel.

The CODE provides a clear process so that any disruption to a student’s journey caused by the actions of another passenger will be dealt with fairly and quickly.

For most students the CODE is easy to follow and does not require any change to their current behaviour. By following it, students will be helping to ensure a comfortable, pleasant and safe ride for all passengers.

Students not following the Code of Conduct will receive penalties including possible suspension of free bus travel for a period of time.

SAFE SCHOOL BUS TRAVEL BEHAVIOUR

Students will be expected to ...

- Behave in an orderly manner whilst waiting at the bus stop
- Travel only on the allocated bus unless permission is obtained via a note
- Obey the driver’s instructions
- Remain seated for the whole journey
- Remain seated until the bus stops
- Talk quietly and refrain from calling out to passing traffic
- When you get off the bus wait until the bus has moved completely away and that you have a clear view of traffic in both directions, prior to crossing the road

UNSAFE SCHOOL BUS TRAVEL BEHAVIOUR

Students should not ...

- Distract the attention of the driver by engaging in poor behaviour such as yelling out or making loud noises
- Fight on the bus or at any bus stop or coordination/changeover point
- Harass the driver or any other student on the bus
- Use foul or abusive language
- Vandalise the bus
- Throw rubbish or any other object, in or from the bus or have anything hanging out the window
- Allow any part of their body to protrude from the bus – make sure you and your belongings are inside the bus at all times
- Eat, drink or smoke on the bus
- Use or take any alcohol or illegal drugs on the bus
- Play on the roadway whilst at the bus stop
- Attempt to get on or off the bus until it has completely stopped

PLEASE NOTE:

- The driver can designate specific seats for students at any time
- It is the parent/carer/s responsibility to arrange suitable transport to and from school during any period of suspension
- Should a student miss their bus, the parent/carer will be responsible to make arrangements to get the student to and/or from school
- A note from the parent is required when a student wishes to alter his/her usual bus routine eg. when desiring to leave the bus at a different stop. This must be taken to the School Office and stamped and signed by staff before travel.
- Parents/carers should wait on the same side of the road as the bus stop, to eliminate the risk of a student running across the road. Please do not park in the bus stop area
- Students are only permitted to travel on a school bus on days when they are attending school.