

Safe School Transport

Taking Responsibility



GOOD BEHAVIOUR – TAKE IT ON BOARD

a healthy and safe Wiltshire

SPITTING



Safe School Transport

We know that lots of you catch the bus each day and that the vast majority of journeys are hassle free. But sometimes some of your friends can cause trouble, even if they don't mean to. This could endanger your journey and that of other passengers. Also some of the things you do with your friends can cause offence to other people, even though you may think you are just having fun...

www.wiltshire.gov.uk



Please help us to make your journey more comfortable.

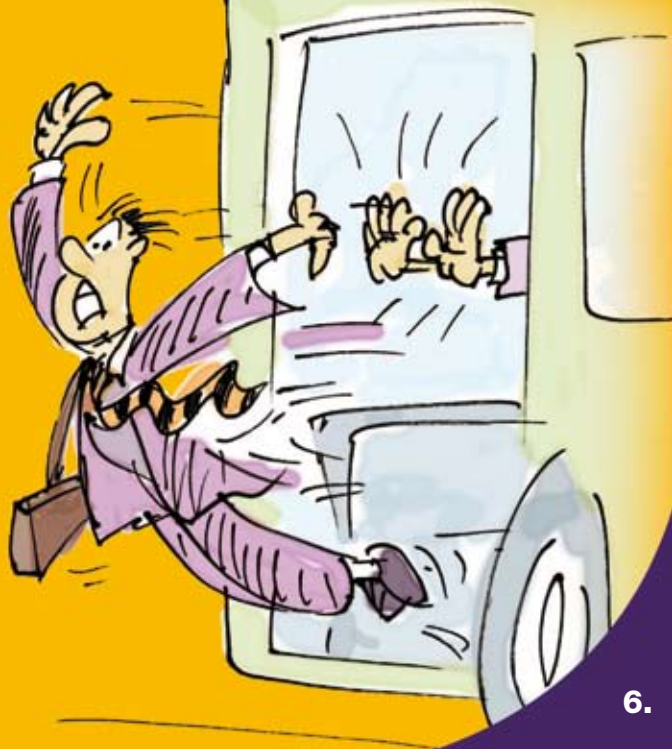
Spare a minute to read this information:

- Don't forget your bus pass or money
- Queue sensibly at the bus stop. Don't push and shove others whilst getting on or off the bus
- Don't panic if your bus is late – if it has not arrived 30 minutes after the scheduled departure time, call The Education Transport Hotline on 01225 713365
- Do show your bus pass clearly to the driver; give him/ her time to examine it!
- Do try and have the correct bus fare
- Do take your ticket, and keep it safe for inspection during your journey
- Sit on the seat and don't stand on the stairs or run up and down the bus
- If there is a seat belt please use it, it's the law
- Do show respect to your bus driver at all times!



- Don't throw items on the bus or out of windows
- Don't lean on any bus windows or stand at the front of any bus
- Don't talk to the driver whilst he/she is driving
- Don't put your feet on the seats
- Don't spit or smoke
- Don't be abusive or swear
- Remember to take all your litter
- Don't push or shove whilst getting on or off the bus
- Eating and/or drinking is not permitted

If you follow this simple advice, your journey, and that of others, will be a pleasant experience. If you don't then your bus driver could become distracted and an accident may happen.



Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated. In all instances of unacceptable behaviour the school and parents of those concerned will be contacted.

Bullying, vandalism or unruly behaviour can result in exclusion from transport. In these circumstances it will become your parents responsibility to transport you to and from school.

You will also be subject to an Acceptable Behaviour Contract upon reinstatement.

**We are raising
our standards...
are you?**



How can you help?

If you can see any incidents taking place, please act responsibly. You can report incidents in many ways...

- To your school
- To a Bus Prefect
- To your parents
- To the Transport Support Team on 01225 713578 or email passengertransport@wiltshire.gov.uk

All reports will be treated in confidence.

Don't let it become acceptable for those who cause discomfort on your journey to continually get away with it. It's wrong!

You should know that bad behaviour on school transport will not be tolerated and that we will be clamping down on offenders.

Covert and overt CCTV is widely used on home to school transport as are a vast network of bus prefects.

The Transport Support Team investigates all incidents reported to them by passengers, bus operators and schools.

Don't let it be you and your parents that we visit next!

PARENTS



ADVICE

Safe School Transport

Introduction

Parents have a very important part to play in helping to ensure that their child has a safe and pleasant journey on the school bus. This section deals with issues of safety and behaviour. Whilst we know that the vast majority of young people are well behaved on school buses there is unfortunately a small minority whose poor behaviour causes distress and offence to other passengers. As well as being unpleasant, bad behaviour can sometimes escalate into dangerous situations which endanger your child's and other people's safety.

Please read this leaflet carefully and act on the advice it contains. You can also ensure that your child reads, understands and follows the advice given in this leaflet. By working together, we can ensure that your child has a safe and pleasant journey on the school bus.

If you would like any more information about the Transport Support Team please telephone Passenger Transport on 0800 9159910



EXCLUSION

The Transport Support Team works in partnership with your child's school to make his/her journey safe. Pupils identified breaking any of these simple rules, either via the school bus prefect network, on-bus CCTV systems or by a complaint, risk immediate exclusion from all home to school transport provided by The County Council. The responsibility for arranging and paying for transport would then be yours.



SAFETY

- Please make sure that your child has read the information regarding travel on school buses and that he/she understands what is expected of him/her.
- Make sure that your child knows about safety on the roads - teach him/her the Green Cross Code.
- Make sure your child is aware of clothing and bags which could present a danger if caught in bus doors - e.g. loose baggy clothing, hanging belts, long scarves, clothing with toggles, large bags/satchels with loose straps.
- Where a seatbelt is provided please encourage your child to wear it.
- As from September 2006, the compulsory wearing of seat belts (where fitted) became law.
- Your child will need to know what to do if the bus is very late or does not arrive.

YOUNGER CHILDREN

- Ensure that young children are taken to the bus stop in good time. Take and collect young children on the same side of the road as the bus collects and sets them down.
- Ensure that young children are met when the bus returns from school. It is not the bus driver or the school's responsibility to ensure that children arrive home safely after they have got off the bus.
- Please remember that young children are easily excited and can quickly forget about road safety rules.

SMOKING

OLDER CHILDREN

If you walk home unaccompanied make sure you know the safest route home and follow the Green Cross Code when crossing roads.





Vandalism

Please ensure that your child is aware of the consequences arising from vandalism. Vandalism on school buses is an increasing problem and parents should be aware that they would be held responsible for any damage caused by their children. Be aware that if your child does cause damage or creates trouble on a bus he/she could:

- Be made subject of an Acceptable Behaviour Contract.
- Be banned from the bus.
- Be prosecuted by the police.

You will be required to pay for any damage caused as well as arranging for getting your child to and from school each day.

You will also be contacted if:

- Your child smokes on a bus.
- Your child's behaviour falls below the standards required.
- Your child's actions put the safety of other passengers and road users at risk.
- Your child's actions cause the driver of the bus to become distracted.
- Your child's bus pass is confiscated.

Wiltshire County Council Transport Support Team

DON'T accept anti-social behaviour on your bus – **REPORT IT**
to your **BUS PREFECT** or a member of **SCHOOL STAFF**

You can email: passengertransport@wiltshire.gov.uk
or visit our website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk

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Information in this publication can be made available in other formats and languages on request. Please contact Wiltshire County Council on 01225 713000 or by email on customer care@wiltshire.gov.uk