



ARRIVE ON TIME

Arrive 5 minutes ahead of the posted schedule. The bus driver will not wait for late riders. Wait time for scheduled routes is approximately 20 minutes. Use your designated bus stop only.

LOADING

Stay on the shoulder or sidewalk (well away from the roadway) while waiting. Remain a safe distance back from the school bus as it approaches the stop and wait until the school bus has completely stopped before approaching. Do not run beside the bus while it is moving.

Board single file and in an orderly fashion. Take a seat right away and remain seated at all times. Riders may be assigned a seat as deemed appropriate.

ON THE BUS

The bus driver is the person in charge. Follow their instructions around bus etiquette and do not distract the bus driver's attention from the road. Chewing gum, smoking/vaping, eating/drinking, spitting, throwing objects, vandalizing, shouting/excessive noise, fighting, bullying, horseplay, and using obscene language are all activities that are NOT permitted on the school bus and will not be tolerated.

School bus aisles must always be kept clear. Students' belongings must not be placed on the floor, on the engine cover, or behind the bus driver's seat. Do not throw waste or any other items on the floor or out the windows. Never extend any part of your body out of the windows.

The bus driver is authorized to confiscate any object or implement from a bus rider that they feel has the potential to inflict bodily injury or cause damage to the bus. Any damage to the school bus or its equipment must be reported immediately to the bus driver.





UNLOADING

Wait until you have reached your destination and the bus has come to a complete stop before leaving your seat. When departing, step onto the shoulder or sidewalk away from the roadway. Do not push or shove. Remain on the shoulder or sidewalk until the bus leaves. DO NOT leave the bus stop or attempt to cross the road before the bus has left the stop.

Do not assume that other vehicles will stop because a bus has flashing lights on and/or the stop arm extended. Some motorists ignore or do not recognize these signals and therefore do not stop. If it is necessary to cross the road, look both ways and make sure there is no traffic. When safe to do so, cross the road.

GENERAL

School buses are used to transport students from home to school and from school to home. They ARE NOT to be used for other purposes, such as visiting friends, birthday parties, music lessons, or medical appointments. School bus transportation is available for students to their place of childcare if the service is needed on a regular basis and if there is a vacant seat on the bus – service is provided on a priority basis. Registration is required via the [online school busing registration form](#).

The Motor Vehicle Act Regulations do not permit the carrying of large travel cases, hockey sticks, large musical instruments, skateboards, and/or skis on school buses.

All items carried by students, including musical instruments, must be small enough to be held on a lap without protruding into the aisle, or onto the neighboring seat, or above the student's head.

The bus driver will determine if a musical instrument(s) and/or other item(s) are within the allowable size limit. No exceptions will be permitted.





TO PARENTS / GUARDIANS

Kindergarten to Grade 3 students will not be permitted to exit their school bus unless a parent or guardian who is known to the bus driver is at the child's bus stop to collect them. If no parent or guardian is present, the bus driver will return the child to their school of attendance.

It is the responsibility of each household to teach students in their care and custody responsible road safety, including but not limited to safe crossing.

Wherever possible, bus stops are in areas where the school bus can pull completely off the road onto the shoulder to pick up or discharge students. In this instance, red flashing lights and the stop arm are **NOT** used.

In instances where this is not possible, the bus may stop on the roadway, and deploy the red flashing lights and stop arm – the use of the **red flashing lights and stop arm** do NOT exclusively ensure or assist children in safely crossing the road. Never assume that vehicles will stop because the school bus has flashing lights and/or an extended stop arm.

When children in your care and custody are utilizing the school bus service, make sure they know and understand the safe riding rules. Remind them to leave home early enough to catch the bus without rushing. Walk the safest (not necessarily shortest) route to and from the bus stop. If required to cross roadways, be extremely careful and do so safely by stopping and looking both ways. While waiting for a bus, stay off the roadway and always be alert to traffic.

Riding the school bus is a privilege that can be revoked temporarily or permanently at the sole discretion of the School District.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROTOCOLS

All bus riders are encouraged to practice hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette per the [BCCDC K-12 Health and Safety Guidelines document](#).

Face masks are optional. Buses will operate with mechanical and natural ventilation as appropriate; it is important for children to be dressed appropriately for riding the school bus as well as travel to and from bus stops.

