

School transport to Blackpool Schools

What is the advice for passengers?

The government says people should "consider all other forms of transport before using public transport". If they can't walk, cycle or drive to their destination, they are advised to:

- Travel at off-peak times
- Take a less busy route and reduce the number of changes
- Wait for other passengers to get off before boarding
- Keep 2m away from people "where possible"
- Wash their hands for at least 20 seconds after completing their journey.

It is hoped that at least 50% of those pupils who usually travel on public transport will shift their journeys to cycling or walking. It is the law that you must wear a face covering when travelling in England on a bus or coach, train or tram.

Where keeping a distance is not possible, at busy times or getting on or off public transport, **the advice is to avoid physical contact, face away from others and wearing face coverings.**

This can reduce the risk of the wearer passing on coronavirus and is now mandatory on public transport in England.

If you do not wear a face covering you will be breaking the law and could be fined £100, or £50 if you pay the fine within 14 days.

A face covering is a covering of any type which covers your nose and mouth. Some people don't have to wear a face covering including for health, age or equality reasons. Some transport staff may not wear a face covering if it is not required for their job.

You should also wear a face covering in other enclosed spaces where it is difficult to maintain social distancing. For example, at stations, interchanges, and in taxis and private hire vehicles. A taxi driver or private hire vehicle operator may be entitled to refuse to accept you if you do not wear a face covering.

The rule applies in situations where individuals from different households or support bubbles could be travelling together on a service but not if you are giving a lift to someone from another household or support bubble in your private car.

www.blackpool.gov.uk

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Surgical masks or respirators used by healthcare and other workers as part of personal protective equipment (PPE) should continue to be reserved for people who need to wear them at work.

Face coverings are not a substitute for maintaining social distancing and good hand hygiene.

Cleaning on school transport

Blackpool Transport have provided the following information.

- In service cleaning will be carried out by a team who operate around the town, meeting vehicles at terminus and timing points and conducting touch point sanitation.
- We have notices on our vehicles asking passengers to follow government guidelines.
- We have seats isolated within vehicles carrying around 40% capacity under 1 metre social distancing.

