**School Bus Behaviour Policy**

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| **Approved by:** | FGB | **Date:** | Summer 2022 |
| **Last reviewed on:** | - | | |
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# 1. Introduction

Walton-le-Dale High School expects students to display the same high standards of behaviour we expect in school, when using the school transport. This applies to the Preston and Blackburn buses and any other transport provided to students for trips and sports events.

In the unsupervised environment of the Preston and Blackburn buses, it is possible that standards of behaviour can deteriorate.

This policy outlines the expected standards of behaviour, via a Code of Conduct and provides the possible sanctions for breaking these standards.

This policy has been updated during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and follows the guidelines for travel on public transport that the UK government sets. Covid-19 current requirements have been highlighted in red and must be adhered to at all times to protect the safety of students and the driver of the bus.

The latest government guidance can be viewed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

# 2. Code of Conduct

2.1 The following code of conduct applies to students travelling on school buses:

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| Behaviour | Code of Conduct |
| Respect for others and their property | Students must:   * Respect other passengers and their possessions. * Follow the driver’s directions without argument. * Not interfere with the bus property, equipment or signs. * Respect fellow students and the bus driver’s Health and Safety during the current Covid-19 pandemic and follow the latest travel guidance. |
| Waiting for pick up | Students must:   * Wait at a suitable distance until the bus stops. * Where necessary, allow other passengers to disembark before attempting to board the bus. * Stand quietly without shouting or calling out. * Board the bus sensibly wearing a face mask​ ​ – without pushing others or preventing them from entering the bus. |
| On the bus | Students must:   * Sit where directed in the seating plan * Remain seated throughout the journey and use a seatbelt * Wear a disposable or reusable face mask at all times on the bus   Student must NOT:​   * Speak to or distract the driver unless there is an emergency. * Stand in front of the driver on the stairwell. * Use the emergency exits or doors unless the driver instructs them to, or if there is a genuine emergency. * Eat, drink, drop litter or smoke on the bus. * Use foul or abusive language on the bus. * Bully, fight, spit or display aggressive behaviour. * Throw items or damage the inside or outside of the bus. If damage is caused the police will be contacted. * Change seats or get out of their seat during the journey. * Block the aisle or seats during the journey. * Use a recording device to obtain images, audio or video of the driver or any passengers. * Place their feet on the seats. * Take off their face mask |
| Using approved bus stops | Students must:  ● Only board or leave the bus at the correct bus collection/drop off point. |
| Leaving the bus | Students must:   * Wait for the bus to stop before standing to get off. * Leave the bus in an orderly manner. * Never cross the road directly in front of or behind the bus. * Use pedestrian crossings where available. |
| In an emergency | Students must:   * Wait until the bus stops before standing to get off. * Leave the bus in an orderly manner. * Wait in the area indicated by the driver.     Student must NOT   * Interfere with the emergency equipment. |

2.2 To reflect the fact that the journey to and from school should be an opportunity to prepare, relax and unwind, the school permits students to perform the following activities during travel:

* Use media/audio devices, provided headphones are worn and audio is restricted to sensible levels\*
* Use mobile phones, provided noise levels are kept to a sensible level and they are not used in a manner that breaks the Code of Conduct\*

\* Neither Walton-le-Dale High School nor the Bus Company takes any responsibility for any equipment that may be lost, stolen or damaged.

2.3 Students are required to respect the rights of other passengers to a safe and enjoyable journey.

# 3. Sanctions for Unacceptable Behaviour

2.1 As part of its commitment to providing a safe environment for the transport of children and young people to and from school. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) reserves the right to ban students from travelling by school transport if a student’s behaviour is deemed unacceptable. A warning letter may be issued for a first offence, if considered sufficiently minor, otherwise a temporary or permanent ban will be imposed.

2.2 Should a student breach the Code of Conduct and action is required, this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

2.3 During the Covid-19 pandemic failure to respect the travel guidance and deliberately placing risk on fellow students or the bus driver will result in an instant ban from the school bus.