



Lawrence Area School School Bus Procedure

Lawrence Area School's policy regarding pupils and bus transport is as follows:

CONDITIONS

Bus transport is a contracted service through individuals or companies, and not provided by the Ministry of Education. Transport for bus pupils is therefore conditional on good behaviour.

Any pupil who continually misbehaves and abuses this privilege risks having the service withdrawn.

APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

The appropriate behaviour that is expected of bus pupils is similar to that expected of them in the classroom.

By appropriate behaviour we mean:

- Showing respect for the bus driver and other pupils on the bus.
- Sitting quietly – talking, not shouting.
- Staying in their seat, facing forward.
- No throwing of objects or misuse of inappropriate items.
- No abuse to bus fittings.
- No eating or drinking on the bus without permission.

The following list constitutes unacceptable behaviour that could cause the driver to be distracted, therefore endangering the well being of **all** bus pupils:

- Shouting/swearing/verbal abuse.
- Pushing or hitting another passenger.
- Throwing items or objects or misuse of inappropriate items.

COMPLAINTS

These are passed on from the bus driver to the Principal and Bus Controller. All complaints are recorded.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Although the responsibility for disciplining pupils rest with the Principal, bus operators and drivers are expected to co-operate in controlling pupils travelling on buses. However, displays of unacceptable behaviour by students that show disregard for the safety of other passengers will not be tolerated by the bus driver or the school.

Bus Operators and Drivers

1. If the misdemeanor is minor and isolated, the pupil is warned (politely but firmly) that misconduct will not be tolerated and that further instances will be reported to the Principal through the Bus Controller.
2. If misbehaviour persists, incident is reported to the Principal.
3. If there is gross misconduct or a tendency towards general disorder the driver should select a safe place to stop the bus. The driver should then tell the pupils he/she will not proceed until order is restored. The Bus Controller/Principal should then be informed of the incident.

4. In cases of repeated gross misconduct the driver may, on subsequent days, refuse to take pupils concerned until such time as the parents have been interviewed by the Bus Controller/Principal and the driver has been informed that disciplinary action has been taken.

The safety of ANY vehicle by law rests with the driver, which is why drivers must play their part in maintaining safety and order within their vehicle.

(The above information is quoted from the 'School Bus Controllers and Principals Information Brochure' issued by the MOE)

Supporting Documents: *School Transport Policy*