



Marysville Primary School Bus Traveller's Code of Conduct

This Code of conduct is one for all involved with school bus travel. Parents, teachers, students and bus drivers are expected to understand the issues discussed here. Issues and concerns cannot be addressed unless we are prepared to bring them forward by raising them through the appropriate forums, as detailed here. Everyone involved with school bus travel is expected to understand and abide by this code.

Responsibilities

Children will;

- travel safely at all times by remaining seated during the trip and not causing distraction to the bus driver.
- keep noise to a minimum.
- not have any part of their body outside the bus.
- follow instructions for the bus driver or coordinator.
- treat the bus with care.
- let the bus driver know if they are not travelling home on the bus.
- after departure from the bus wait on the side of the road until the bus has moved away. Only when it is safe to do so should they cross the road.

The Principal will;

- represent the DSE at the local level.
- Liaise with students, parents and the bus driver.
- Ensure bus routes and timetable.
- Ensure all students understand aspects of bus safety.
- Negotiate appropriate arrival and departure times.

Parents will;

- Ensure students understand aspects of safe bus travel.
- Advise the Principal of any concerns.
- Assume responsibility for students at bus stops.
- Advise the School if students are not travelling home on the bus.
- Obtain permission from the Principal for unauthorised students to travel on the bus eg: a child visiting a friend overnight.
- Where practical wait on the same side of the road as the bus stop to avoid children having to cross the road.

Drivers will;

- Drive safely at all times.
- Comply with all safety regulations, VIC ROADS requirements and the Directorate of School Education policies and directives.
- Operate the bus according to prevailing road conditions.
- Be responsible for the children on the bus.
- Pull over to a safe spot on the road to speak to any children misbehaving on the bus.
- Report to the Principal any children who continually or seriously misbehave.
- Not leave the school in the afternoon until the teacher on duty has indicated it is appropriate to do so.
- Comply with the approved route.
- Comply with approved list of travellers.
- Comply with, as near as practicable, the timetable. The bus must not leave a stop before the timetabled time and children must not be dropped off at a stop before the timetabled time.

It is a general expectation that students will not eat or drink on the bus.

It is critical that there be frequent and honest communication between the Principal, parents and the bus drivers. Concerns and issues need to be raised before they get out of proportion.

Consequences

The Principal will

- discuss concerns and problems with students
- give a warning (if appropriate).
- report incidents to parents.
- ask for verbal or written apologies.
- recommend to suspend students from bus travel. The length of the suspension will be at the discretion of the Principal.

Students may be asked to pay for damage they cause to the bus or other property and will be expected to pay for fines incurred for littering or having parts of their bodies outside the bus.

Parents are expected to complete the Bus Traveller's Agreement which follows this Code of Conduct.