

OTHER THINGS WHICH MAY HAPPEN

- You may receive a formal letter of complaint about your child's behaviour from the school or LA.
- You may also be asked to meet with representatives of the school and/or LA to discuss your child's misbehaviour.
- You may be asked to sign an agreement with the school and/or LA regarding your child's future behaviour.
- Your child may be excluded from school transport on a temporary or even a permanent basis as a result of serious misbehaviour on school transport.
- Your child's transport arrangements may have to be reviewed or even terminated (see sanctions overleaf).
- The LA may report incidents to the police and serious incidents may also result in your child being excluded from school.

Good and appropriate behaviour on school transport will have benefits for all.

In the implementation of the policy, sanctions will be imposed should the need arise. With your support in carrying out your responsibilities and following the guidance in the policy, the aim for safer and calmer travel for all pupils will be achieved.

USEFUL CONTACT NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

TRANSPORT TEAM - COUNTY HALL
(0191) 383 5500

You may wish to complete the section below and keep for future reference. Please contact the Transport Team at County Hall should you require information.

YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER

.....
NAME OF MEMBER OF SCHOOL STAFF WHO DEALS WITH TRANSPORT ISSUES
.....

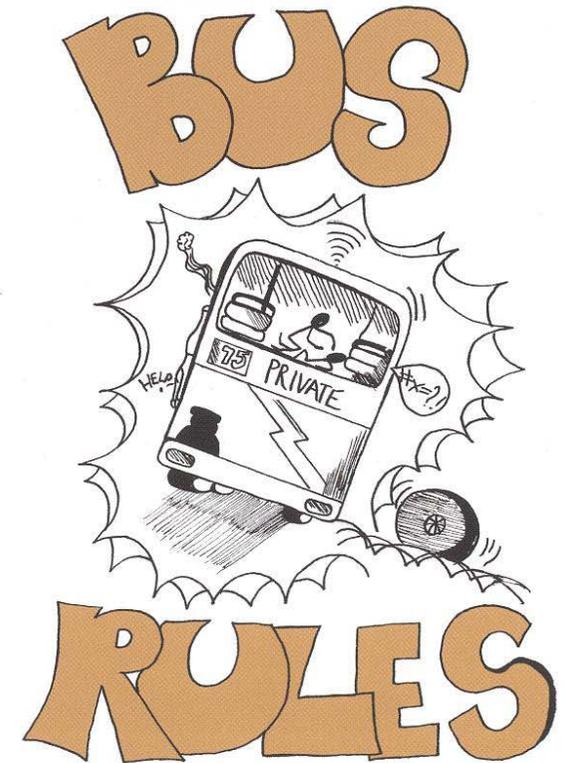
YOUR CHILD'S BUS COMPANY

.....
NAME OF PERSON AT THE BUS COMPANY TO BE CONTACTED ABOUT DIFFICULTIES
.....

.....
BUS COMPANY TELEPHONE NO.
.....

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Pupil Behaviour on School Transport information for parents



Pupil Behaviour on School Transport - information for parents



Durham County Council is firmly committed to providing the best possible services to children and their families, as well as to schools, contractors and members of the public. This includes ensuring the safety and welfare of all pupils, operators, drivers and escorts on home to school transport. The behaviour of the vast majority of pupils whilst travelling is good; however, the conduct of a small percentage of pupils gives cause for concern. This is unacceptable, and in agreeing and promoting a policy on pupil behaviour on school transport the local authority (LA) aims to raise the standards of behaviour.

Parents/carers have a key role to play and are responsible for the conduct of their children. Children should be made aware:

- of the necessity to behave in a reasonable and responsible manner, whilst travelling to and from school.
- of their rights and their responsibilities whilst travelling on school transport and the reasons why this is important.
- that poor behaviour will result in sanctions or consequences on them and also on their parents/carers.

We are therefore seeking your assistance in getting over this message and supporting the LA, and the operator. The policy will secure the rights of your child, but equally, the policy does allow for sanctions to be taken if your child interferes with the rights of others to safe and trouble-free travel.

The LA believes that these rights can be most effectively achieved if the travel pass issued to your son or daughter bears a current photograph and would therefore strongly seek your support in providing and securing such a photograph to the pass.

This leaflet sets out the rights and responsibilities of parents/carers and of children, and the sanctions that could be taken should a child not behave in a responsible manner.

Please ensure that your child reads and understands the information on the children's leaflet and that this is carried alongside the child's bus pass.

YOUR RIGHTS

- Access to the 'Behaviour on School Transport' policy (a copy is held at the Help Desk at County Hall, Durham, or your local library).
- To be told by the school or LA about any problems your child has on home to school transport and to be involved in finding a solution to these problems.
- To talk to your child's school or the LA about behaviour problems on school transport that your child may be having.
- To complain where you feel problems have not been sorted out properly.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- To provide a current photograph of your child and make sure it is attached to your child's travel permit.
- To provide emergency contact information to the LA or transport operator for use when it may be necessary to amend travel arrangements at short notice, e.g. during adverse weather conditions.
- To ensure your child behaves well on home to school transport.
- To pay for any damage caused by your child to any vehicle or property as a result of his/her poor behaviour on school transport.

- To co-operate with and support the school, LA and operator where your child is having behaviour problems on school transport.
- To ensure your child does not leave home without his/her travel permit. Bus passes will be checked on both the morning and afternoon journeys.
- To ensure your child has seen the leaflet for pupils on 'Behaviour on School Transport' and understands what is expected of him/her.
- To make alternative home to school transport arrangements for your child should his/her travel permit be removed temporarily or permanently as a direct result of his/her conduct on school transport.
- To support any sanctions taken either by the school or LA as a direct result of your child's behaviour on school transport.
- To ensure pupils are not in possession of, supplying or misusing illicit substances, tobacco or alcohol; or supplying or misusing medication or volatile substances.

Should your child not behave in a responsible manner the LA will have the following sanctions which it could implement to ensure that children can travel safely and trouble free.

SANCTIONS

- Payment for the cost of a replacement travel permit (£5.00).
- Temporary or permanent withdrawal of free transport by the LA with no recompense.
- **Paying in full for any damage caused to the vehicle or to property by your child's misbehaviour.**