

Teachers

Bad behaviour on school buses cannot be tolerated as it endangers all children using the vehicle.

Schools will have their own disciplinary procedures, but where misbehaviour is persistent, parents should be reminded that the Authority has the power to suspend any child from using school transport.

Please help to ensure that all children understand the rules for using school transport and their importance. Remind children of the legal requirement to wear seat belts where fitted.

It may be appropriate to appoint prefects or monitors to monitor the conduct of children travelling on school transport.

Pupils

Do not play at the bus stop.

Do not go near the bus wheels.

Do not go near the bus until it has stopped.

Have your bus pass available at all times.

Do not go back to the bus after you get off.

Do not cross the road near the bus.

Do not eat or drink on the bus.

Beware of coats and bags catching in doors.

Do not mess or play on the roadside.

Please wear Hi -viz clothing while waiting for bus on road side.

Please stand well back on grass verge away from passing traffic.

Please use the safe cross code no matter what age you are when crossing to get into the bus.

When on the bus remain in your seat and wear your seat belt where available.

Do not play silly games on the bus as this is dangerous and could cause the driver to have an accident.

Never cross in front of or close behind a bus. You must be able to see clearly both ways.

Pupils

Follow your parent's instructions about where to go and what to do if the bus does not arrive within 15 minutes of the usual arrival time.

Please behave responsibly at all times when waiting for, getting on, travelling on or getting off a school bus. If you misbehave, you may be excluded from future travel.

Do not distract the driver. Stay in your seat when the bus is moving as (s)he needs to concentrate.

You should ensure that you always have your bus pass with you and keep it available for inspection. Do not attempt to travel on buses other than the one on which you have been allocated a seat.

Please make sure that the bus is left clean and tidy. Do not damage seats or seat belts in any way.

Wear seat belts where fitted and encourage younger children to do likewise.

Wait until the bus stops before getting on or off.

Never push or shove others on or near a moving bus.

If you should miss your afternoon bus, return to your school and report to the secretary or a teacher.

Do not bully other pupils or use foul or abusive language.

You may be responsible for the costs of any damage and vandalism to the vehicle.

Smoking is not allowed on school buses.

In the event of a breakdown or accident

Stay on the bus unless it is unsafe to do so.

Please follow the advice of the driver - if there is likely to be a delay, (s)he will normally seek help by telephone.

Do not make your own arrangements to get to school or home without first contacting the school or your parents.

LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

Comhairle Chontae Liatroma



Be safe on the bus.

**A few simple safety rules
for pupils, parents, bus
drivers and teachers.**





Be Safe on The Bus

10 Commandments of Bus Safety

1. Wait for the bus to stop completely before approaching the bus and stand clear of the door while it is opening.
2. Be courteous to the driver - they have a very responsible job to get you to your destination.
3. Go to your seat and put on your seat belt properly.
4. Be mannerly - do not distract the driver by moving around, shouting, or throwing items around.
5. When approaching your stop stay in your seat with your seatbelt securely fastened until the bus comes to a complete stop. If you are standing in the aisle when the bus driver brakes, there is nothing there to stop you moving forward and hitting the windscreen .
6. If you drop something when getting off the bus, do not pick it up until you tell the driver—he might not see you and drive away.
7. Stand clear from the bus doors and make sure all your clothing is free from the bus doors before they close.
8. When you are getting off the bus, look left in case there is a cyclist approaching on the kerb side of the bus.
9. Leaving the bus make sure to bring all your belongings with you.
10. Wait for the bus to move away before crossing the road. Do not cross in front or behind the bus to allow a clear view for yourself and for other drivers to see you .



Parents



Take them

Take young children to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus arrives. Look after them until the bus arrives.

Meet them

Young children should be met when the bus returns from school - youngsters are often excited and forget road safety as they get off the bus. Remember you are responsible for the safety of your child at this time.

Teach Them

Teach your children the safety rules. Do they understand the rules for pupils in this leaflet?

Help the Driver

Help bus drivers do their job. Remind children that playing about at bus stops and on the buses can cause accidents and injuries.

When Children are Alone

Make sure unaccompanied children know the safest route between home and the bus stop. The shortest route may not be the safest. Be sure children know the best place to cross busy roads. Use school crossing patrols where provided.

Bad Weather

If bad weather prevents a school bus operating in the morning, no return service will operate in the afternoon even if the weather improves.

Seat Belts

Remind your children of the legal requirement to wear seat belts.

Bus Drivers

Approach each stop slowly and with care.

Check bus passes daily.

Use the hazard warning lights when the bus is stationary. Keep the doors closed until you have brought the bus to a complete standstill.

Before moving off, make sure that doors are properly closed and that no coats or bags are caught in the mechanism of the door - from inside or outside. Pay particular attention to near-side mirrors in case latecomers attempt to board.

If there is any mis-behaviour on the bus, stop your vehicle as soon as it is safe to do so and do not proceed until the misbehaviour ceases. Never evict an unruly child between destinations. Report misbehaviour to the pupil's headteacher. Never say you are going to report misbehaviour and then fail to do so. Report any damage to vehicles or seat belts to the school concerned. Summon Garda assistance if necessary.

Make absolutely sure that all disembarked children are well clear of the bus before moving off and that no children are dashing back for property they have left behind.

Discourage children from crossing in front of the bus. If it is necessary for you to reverse, try to avoid doing so where children are waiting to board or have just left the bus.

If it is necessary to reverse on school premises, ensure that the path is clear.

Children should be told that you will not drive away until they are sitting in their seats. Remind children of the legal requirement to wear seat belts where fitted. Ensure that "school bus" signs and route numbers are displayed.