

Travel to & from School - Covid Update

Now that the Government has issued detail transport guidance, WSCC and the school have been working hard to ensure that travel to and from school is as safe as it can be.

Summary

The guidance is proportionate in its approach. It acknowledges that not every mitigation is possible everywhere. We would like to work with parents/pupils on the following areas, summarised here:

- Social distancing is not required on dedicated school transport. Public buses continue to have [social distancing requirements](#) - please make sure you and your child are aware of these if using public transport
- Precautions and general hygiene
 - **not** travelling if anyone in the household has symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
 - hand washing before and after each journey
 - encouraging the wearing of face coverings - students aged 11 and over should wear face coverings unless exempt
 - additional cleaning of vehicles especially hard surfaces
- When travelling on or waiting at a bus stop for vehicles
 - following any loading/unloading instructions and use of allocated seating areas if provided
 - sitting on board with others in their bubbles if possible
 - Keeping distance between students not in their bubbles as well as other passengers
 - Use of face coverings on public transport and dedicated school buses
- Looking at bus operator's websites to check timetables to understand options for the start and location of school journeys
- Students using the late bus service **MUST** collect a late bus ticket from their teacher so that we can record late bus users each day for track and trace purposes
- Active travel - encouraging walking and cycling, particularly if pupils live up to two miles from school
- Congestion - not driving to the school gates, dropping off elsewhere so students do not congregate outside of school site

West Sussex School transport Team have worked with the bus companies to either close existing public services to only allow school children to use them or where this hasn't been possible, they have added additional vehicles. Parents/carers are asked to check bus operators and/or WSCC websites for any changes to services, with a final check to be undertaken just before travelling.

School staff will be on duty to assist with orderly boarding and students are expected to follow instructions and adhere to the code of conduct.

West Sussex School Transport Team have further details on their website about [Getting to and from school](#)

We look forward to parents and pupil support in implementing these measures. We may find these arrangements need to continue for some time and changes may be needed. Most important is that we continue to work together to ensure transport is provided safely.