

Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses (the Code)

Information for students

The Code exists to make sure everyone on the bus has a safe and comfortable journey. It applies to every bus trip to and from school and for school events (like school sports, excursions or camps). It lays out clear expectations for how you should act while on the bus and the consequences if you don't follow the rules.

Understand the Code

Following the Code is easy. There are four main things to do:

Be prepared

Hail and wait for the bus in an orderly manner. Have any required bus pass, smart card or fare ready before boarding.

Be respectful

Treat the driver, other passengers and property with respect. This means no offensive language, sharing or accessing inappropriate content, taking photos of others when they don't want you to or touching others.

Be safe

Do what the bus driver tells you to do. Follow the safety rules. If the bus has seatbelts, put your seatbelt on when you sit down. Stay calm and behave politely throughout the trip.

Be responsible

Take care of your things and keep the bus clean. Don't damage the bus, litter or leave things in the aisle where people could trip on them.

The Code has four categories of unacceptable behaviour.

- **Category One: Irresponsible behaviour**

Examples include fare evasion (not paying the fare or showing your bus pass), offensive language and littering in the bus.

- **Category Two: Unsafe behaviour**

Examples include verbal abuse, repeatedly moving around the bus and ignoring the bus driver's instructions.

- **Category Three: Dangerous/destructive behaviour**

Examples include vaping or smoking on the bus, vandalism (like cutting seatbelts or carving things in the window glass) and physically attacking others.

- **Category Four: Life threatening behaviour**

Examples include threatening with or being in possession of a weapon or replica (including items being used as a weapon such as sporting equipment) and hitting, pushing or interfering with the bus driver while driving.

If you break the rules

If you break the rules, there will be a consequence. This will depend on the severity and frequency of your behaviour and may include:

- a warning and letter sent home to your parent/guardian telling them about your behaviour.
- refused travel meaning you will not be able to use the bus for a period.
- a behaviour agreement where you commit to following the bus rules in the future.

The bus operator decides which category the unacceptable behaviour fits into depending on the circumstances surrounding the incident. They are also responsible for deciding what consequence will apply. Many buses have security cameras fitted, and the bus operator will look at the footage if there is an incident on the bus.

Remember

The Code is here to make bus travel safe and comfortable for everyone. If something doesn't make sense or you are unsure about the rules, ask your parent/guardian for clarification. You can also ask the bus driver when it is safe to do so, or your school. If you experience or witness an incident on the bus, report it to the bus driver when safe, or tell your parent/guardian or school

More information Scan the QR code to learn more about the code



<https://translink.com.au/travel-with-us/school-travel/code-of-conduct>

Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses – effective March 2026