



**Norfolk** County Council



## YOUR GUIDE TO TRAVELLING ON SCHOOL TRANSPORT IN SEPTEMBER 2020

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School transport across Norfolk will run from September in line with the guidance published by the Department for Education (DfE) and Public Health England (PHE).

## **WE WOULD LIKE TO REASSURE PARENTS AND STUDENTS**

THAT THE RISK TO CHILDREN FROM CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) IS LOW AND SO FROM SEPTEMBER WE WILL GO BACK TO TRANSPORTING STUDENTS TOGETHER IN LARGER GROUPS.

All of our transport operators will be working hard to ensure your child is safe when travelling. High touch areas will be wiped down regularly and vehicles will have enhanced cleaning at the end of each day.

There will be a number of measures put in place in order to help keep everybody travelling safe.

**PLEASE SHARE THE GUIDANCE IN THIS LEAFLET WITH YOUR CHILD SO THAT THEY KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL.**



## **FOR STUDENTS WHO GET DEDICATED SCHOOL TRANSPORT INCLUDING BUS, MINI BUS OR TAXI YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Social distancing guidance will not apply to dedicated school transport.

This is because students will not be sharing with members of the general public and will generally, or mostly, be with the same group of students each day.

- Face coverings should be worn by those aged 11 or over, and by younger children if they are able to do so safely. Please ensure these are worn correctly covering the nose and mouth.
- Students should sit with others from their year group or bubble if possible.
- If transport is shared with students from another school, then you should sit with others from your own school and bubble where possible and leave space between yourself and the students from the other school when you can.



## **FOR STUDENTS WHO GET PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO SCHOOL YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Students should observe social distancing guidelines on public services and sit in the seats marked, although they can sit next to others from their family or school.
- Face coverings are mandatory on public transport unless someone has an exemption.

When travelling please be mindful that this is going to be a new experience for everybody including other students, transport staff and the general public who may also be travelling.

## **TIPS FOR A SAFE JOURNEY:**

### **YOUR HYGIENE**

- Carry a small hand sanitiser with you so you can clean your hands before and after your journey.
- If you touch door handles, seatbelts, railings or any other component of the vehicle do not touch your face until you have washed your hands or used hand sanitiser.
- When you arrive at school and at home wash your hands with soap and water.

### **FACE COVERINGS**

- If you are aged 11 or over you are required to wear a face covering on all school transport (buses, taxis and minibuses).
- The face covering does not need to be a medical grade mask but something to cover the nose and mouth.
- We also advise children under the age of 11 to wear one if they are able to do so.
- Bring a small sealable bag with you to store your face covering in during the day.



## **AT THE BUS STOP & BOARDING**

- Whilst waiting keep your distance from other passengers, remain on the footpath and be considerate of the surrounding public who may be passing.
- Please let other passengers off the vehicle before trying to board.
- Students who have a bus pass **MUST** tap on the reader every journey and you must use the vehicle we have allocated you to for test and trace purposes.
- If you forget your bus pass you may be asked by the bus driver to give your name – please do so as this is important for track and trace purposes.

## **ON THE VEHICLE**

**Make sure you follow all instructions from the driver (and passenger assistant if you have one)**

- You should sit with other students from your year group if you can. Also try to sit in the same seat each day.
- Sit side-by-side where possible and avoid face to face contact such as close talking
- Get off the vehicle at school from the front row by row; also lower deck first then upper deck.
- Do not interfere with any tape, signs or barriers that have been placed to help passengers socially-distance.
- Where windows are open to help increase the airflow through the vehicle, do **NOT** close them.



## **WHAT IF MY CHILD OR SOMEONE IN MY HOUSE SHOWS SYMPTOMS?**

Any child or young person must not travel if they or anyone in their household has symptoms of COVID-19.

Public health advice should be followed as usual, if you have tested positive for COVID-19 then we strongly advise that parents engage with the NHS Test and Trace service by calling 119.

This enables the service to alert people you may have been in close contact with to self-isolate, and therefore help prevent the spread of the virus.

**Please do not allow your child to travel if they, or a member of your family, have any symptoms of COVID-19 which are - a new persistent cough, high temperature or change in their sense of taste or smell.**

This information was correct at the time of printing but for latest updates or changes made due to government guidance please visit **[www.norfolk.gov.uk/schooltransport](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/schooltransport)**