

## Parents on Buses

Parents are not allowed on regular school bus runs. Harassing the driver or other bussed students is a serious offense which can be reported to the City Police.

## Large Items on Buses

The school bus operations, section 23 of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Regulation, which deals with the carrying of luggage, equipment and tools (such as band instruments and sports equipment) states “they shall not be carried in the interior of a school bus” unless “they can be stored under the seat, do not block aisles or emergency exits, cannot be dislodged when the brakes of the school bus are applied, during acceleration of the school bus or in the event of an accident involving the school bus”. The driver is responsible for ensuring that items are transported in accordance with this section.

As these items cannot be secured; tubas, trombones, saxophones, French horns, skate boards, skis, hockey sticks, scooters, large hockey bags, curling brooms, suitcases with wheels, large shop project, etc... **They will not be allowed on the bus.**

Students may only carry those items which can be held safely on their laps. The items must not stick up above the seat and must not be wider than 33cm x 33cm x 59cm so as not to intrude in another student’s space or stick out into the aisle. Items allowed on the bus must be held on the student’s lap at all times.

## Lost & Found

Items left on the bus will be placed in the lost and found box located by the office.

## Eating on Buses

Guidelines advise that students should not be allowed to eat on the bus because the driver may not be able to hear a child if he/she is choking. Students may not eat or drink on the bus (including soft drinks, candy, and gum).

## School Bus Safety

1. Always be at your stop five minutes before your bus is scheduled to arrive.
2. Wait for the bus in a safe spot at least six giant steps away from the road. (Safety Zone)
3. Use the handrail when getting on and off the bus.
4. Get on the bus one at a time.
5. Take your seat right away and stay seated until you leave the bus.
6. Sit back in your seat, face forward and keep your feet to the front.
7. Talk quietly so as not to distract the driver. Remember, it’s the driver’s responsibility to keep you safe.
8. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the doors to open before you leave your seat.
9. After leaving the bus, take six giant steps away from the bus so you are out of the Danger Zone and in a safe spot. Wait in this safety zone until the bus has pulled away. (Point 2.1 on page 41 of the S Endorsement manual).



## Student Transportation Brochure



Lethbridge  
Christian School  
403-320-0677  
e-mail: [lcs@lethsd.ab.ca](mailto:lcs@lethsd.ab.ca)

## Bus Routes

Routes can change throughout the school year. The updated routes can be found at <http://lcs.lethsd.ab.ca/> Once there, click on the bus on the top task bar.

## Bus Stops

Students are required to be at their stop at least 5 minutes prior to bus arrival. Drivers are not able to wait for students who are tardy in arriving at their stop as it alters the bus schedules. The bus will not leave the school until 6 minutes after the bell.

Do not cross in front of the bus when exiting. Cross the street at marked crosswalks or intersections after the bus has pulled away.

Transportation is provided for eligible students from a designated pickup to & from school ONLY (not to baby sitters, music lessons, job related activities, sports events, etc.)

Only eligible students, drivers or authorized persons may ride the bus.

## Late or Cancelled Bus

If a bus is going to be late or cancelled you will get a message from the school through school messenger. This will be in the form of an automated message, email and text message if you opted in to that choice.

## Inclement Weather

News releases will be provided to various radio stations after receiving direction from the school board as to whether a cancellation will take place in the morning. In the case of a midday decision (early dismissal) parents will be notified before students are sent home.

## Behaviour on the Bus

### Riding the bus is a privilege, “not a right”

In order for students to have a safe and pleasant ride on the bus, students must follow the rules of conduct. The bus is an extension of the classroom and school officials will deal with any misconduct.

It is the primary responsibility of the driver to transport students safely to and from school. The driver’s attention must be on the road and traffic conditions and not on student behaviour.

Buses are equipped with video cameras which are used for discipline and safety purposes only.

Students may be suspended or expelled from riding the bus if they do not follow the rules of conduct.

### Consequences Administered by School Officials

1. Written infraction sent to school - Parents Notified
2. 2nd infraction - 1 day suspension
3. 3rd infraction - 3 day suspension
4. 4th infraction - 5 day suspension
5. 5th infraction - suspension of riding privileges.

**Steps may be omitted depending on the severity of the infraction.**

### City Bylaw #2362

It is unlawful for any person to fight, scream, shout, swear, use insulting or obscene language, smoke, spit or engage in unseemly or disorderly behaviour on any School bus.

### Commercial Vehicle Safety Regulation

#### Section 29

**No Person Shall:** Stand in a school bus, get up from his seat on a school bus, or attempt to get on or off a school bus while the school bus is in motion.

## Students’ Responsibilities

- Follow the directions of the driver.
- Students are to remain seated while the bus is in motion and are not to extend any part of their body out the windows
- Standees are not permitted on school buses.
- Students may be assigned to specific seats.
- No eating on the bus. (including candy, drinks, and gum)
- Students who vandalize a bus will be held responsible for the cost of repairs and may lose their riding privileges.
- Inappropriate use of mobile technology is strictly prohibited.
- Scuffling, fighting, harassment of other students, smoking, use of obscene language and throwing objects in and out of the bus are prohibited.
- Conveyance, using or under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances, prohibited.
- The possession, use or conveyance of potentially dangerous items prohibited.

**The seriousness of the above offences may warrant immediate suspension and referral to police services.**

## Remember the danger zones at all Times

- When waiting for the school bus, stand well back from the curb. Don’t run towards the oncoming bus.
- After you are dropped off, stay in the safety zone until the bus pulls away from the curb.
- The 6 giant step rule is a good measurement for children to identify the Danger Zone around the school bus.
- Remember if you can’t see the driver, the driver can’t see you.
- Never, ever, walk or play behind a vehicle.
- When you go near the bus, always be sure you can see the bus driver.
- If you drop anything in the danger zone, leave it. Never stop to pick it up.
- Never run to or from the bus.