

SCHOOL BUS REGULATIONS

1. The school bus driver is the authority on the bus and is expected to maintain discipline and safety whenever transporting Lethbridge Christian School students. He/she is required to know and follow school Transportation Policies. Drivers are qualified and receive instructions and any new information pertinent to their role as representatives of LCS. Students receive formal bus safety instruction at least every second year.
2. Drivers may appoint bus monitors and may assign seating arrangements.
3. The bus driver is the final judge as to whether large objects are allowed on the bus ie. toboggans, suitcases, Science Fair projects, etc. In some cases parents may have to provide transport of such items since safety is the main concern. Children bringing skates on the bus should have them inside a sturdy bag (not plastic) with skate guards on the blades.
4. Bus schedules are to be observed. From the school's end it is our goal to have all buses leave the school within 10 minutes of dismissal. Therefore, students must go directly to the bus and not loiter or visit. It is the child's responsibility to have all necessary items with him/her upon boarding the bus. The driver's permission is required to leave the bus.



Students should be at their bus stop five minutes before the designated pickup time. Bus drivers will not wait if the child is not within sight. Neither will messengers be sent from the bus to advise parents that the bus is waiting. Children are asked to wait in the 'Safety Zone' - - on a curb, away from the road, until the bus comes to a complete stop. At all times the driver must be able to see the children whether boarding or after disembarking.

While waiting for the bus students should stand at least two giant steps away from the road.

When the bus approaches, line up with the smaller children in front. Stay away from the bus until it stops.

5. Students must have **written permission signed by parents** to ride on any bus other than the one they are regularly assigned to. Further, children will not be dropped off at destinations other than their regularly scheduled stop unless prior arrangements are made by parents. Please note that drivers will not change the regular route to accommodate special needs ie; music lessons, dropping children at their parent's place of work, etc. In emergencies, parents can phone the school office to arrange changes but students are not allowed to call home to make last minute changes. The office personnel are responsible for advising bus drivers of any changes.
6. If children miss their bus ride, they are required to report immediately to the office. Students waiting for rides are to remain quietly in the main foyer. Any other areas are out-of-bounds unless the child is with a teacher at the teacher's request. If teachers require a child to remain behind for purposes of detention, extra-help, intramurals, sport practices, etc., arrangements are made in advance with parents/guardians.
7. Sometimes, due to unforeseen circumstances, a bus may be running late. The driver will contact the first home affected on the Route Schedule (Each family receives this document. Please keep it on hand in a convenient place for quick referral.) We request that a telephone chain go into effect to alert others. This is a safety issue. Parents are requested to call the next number with the information. If there is no response, leave a message if you are able and call the next name on the list so as not to break the information chain.
8. While riding on the bus, students are requested to sit flat, feet down, backs against the seat. Quiet conversation is permitted but any behavior that distracts the driver or others will not be tolerated.
9. Complete silence is required at railway crossings and in emergency situations.
10. While windows may be lowered (halfway only), at no time should students litter or extend arms, heads, or objects out the windows.

11. Eating, drinking, and gum chewing can result in choking. Therefore, these are not allowed. On rare occasions, as in the event of a day long field trip, eating lunches may be necessary. However, the bus should not be in motion. Buses are to be kept clean.
12. Bus loading areas are not to be obstructed by parents in waiting vehicles or by students walking or riding bikes.

We know that our students and parents appreciate the need for rules. By working together and developing courteous attitudes and behaviors, we ensure that our school will run efficiently with an atmosphere of cooperation and understanding.

