

Ethos Academy

Transportation Information & Guidelines for Students and Parents



TRANSPORTATION

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Guidelines for Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians can assist in our efforts to maintain high standards of safety and acceptable student behavior on school buses by adhering to the following guideline:

- Ethos can only provide one space per child. Ethos cannot provide spaces on two different bus routes for the same child.
- School bus drivers can only pick up and drop off riders at an authorized regular daily stop. Drivers cannot make changes to stops without authorization from Ethos.
- Transportation for non-school related functions is the parents' responsibility. Only those students eligible for transportation are entitled to ride a bus that has been assigned to them. Ethos cannot provide transportation for special events such as birthday parties, sleepovers or homework projects. These requests cannot be permitted for safety reasons.
- Please ensure that your child is at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to the arrival of the bus. Drivers cannot wait for children to arrive at their bus stop.
- Parents/guardians should not attempt to stop, delay or board the bus at any time. Please direct any questions or concerns to Ethos or the bus company.
- Remember that you are responsible for your child's safety and conduct prior to boarding the bus and following drop-off at a designated stop. This includes walking or driving your child to and from the bus stop. Without permission to walk home form, an authorized, responsible person must accompany your child to and from the bus stop. If this person is not at the stop to meet the child, drivers are directed to take the student back to school campus. It is a parental responsibility to ensure that children arrive home safely from the bus stop.
- Ensure that you meet your child on the same side of the street where he or she exits the school bus.
- Make sure that your child's belongings are securely packed in their school bag.

Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians of Children Requiring Special Needs Transportation

Always be aware of your child's bus company, route number and bus driver's name.

- Have your child ready for pick up at the same time each day.
- Talk to your child about appropriate behavior while travelling on the school bus.
- Throwing objects inside or outside the vehicle is not permitted.
- Fighting, shouting or the use of obscene language is not permitted.
- Assist your child from the place of residence to the vehicle; on return from school assist your child from the vehicle to the place of residence.
- Impress upon your child the need for good safety practices, including use of the seat belt at all times.
- Place names on students' belongings, such as lunch boxes, hats, mittens etc. to avoid loss.
- Be aware of the procedures followed in cases of emergencies and have in place the appropriate arrangements for supervision, should your child be transported home earlier than usual.

Student School Bus Safety

RULES FOR GETTING ON THE BUS SAFELY

- Be at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to the arrival of the bus. Never run to, from or after the bus.
- Wait at your designated stop in a safe place, back from the side of the road.
- Do not stand in the danger zone that surrounds the bus. The danger zone is anywhere close enough for you to touch the bus.
- When boarding, always wait until the bus has come to a complete stop. Look for the stop arm to come out and for the flashing red lights.
- When boarding and/or disembarking the bus, please refrain from using your cellphone.
- If you need to cross the street to get on the bus, watch the driver. When the driver is assured that all traffic has stopped he/she will signal for you to cross the street - but continue to watch for traffic yourself. Always walk, do not run.
- Hold the handrail as you get on the bus. Do not push or shove.

RULES FOR RIDING THE BUS SAFELY

- Take your seat promptly and sit properly, facing forward at all times. Remain in your assigned seat.
- Place your belongings under the seat or on your lap.
- Keep the aisle of the bus clear at all times.
- Do not place items or body parts out of the window.
- Throwing objects inside or outside of the bus is not permitted.
- Speak quietly; the driver needs to concentrate. Please remember that picture/video taking is a violation of the privacy of other students and that sharing photos/videos with others can be distracting for the driver.
- Fighting, shouting, or use of obscene language is not permitted.
- Be absolutely quiet when approaching a railroad crossing.
- Ensure you are aware of all bus evacuation procedures.
- Dangerous or distracting objects are not permitted on the bus.
- Eating and drinking (this includes chewing gum) are not allowed on school vehicles at any time. This rule protects students and drivers that have food allergies and anaphylaxis, prevents choking, and maintains bus cleanliness.
- Be aware that other students and the bus driver may have sensitivities to scents such as perfume, etc.
- Smoking is not permitted on or in close proximity of the bus or bus stop. Please be mindful of the allergies and sensitivities of others.
- Always follow the bus driver's and/or bus aide's instructions.

RULES FOR LEAVING THE BUS SAFELY

- Remain in your seat until the bus comes to a complete stop.
- When you leave the bus, hold the handrail and take two large steps away from the bus.
- To cross the street in front of the bus, walk ahead at least ten giant steps. Cross only when the driver gives a signal. Proceed across the street, looking both ways for oncoming traffic.
- Cross the street in single file.
- When getting off the bus, the people at the front exit first. Do not push.
- If you drop something near the bus, do not pick it up. Tell an adult.

Transporting Articles on the School Bus

- For safety reasons, only certain equipment is permitted on the bus.
- Sporting equipment including sports balls must be carried and kept in a sports bag or backpack at all times.
Dangerous objects are not permitted on the school bus (examples: knives, guns, etc.).

Disciplinary Action for Improper Conduct on the School Bus

Riding on a school bus is a privilege, not a right. Improper conduct may result in the withdrawal of this privilege.

All policies and procedures at Ethos Academy apply on school bus and until they are released at their assigned bus stop. Consequently, the disciplinary standards set by the school, the school board, and Event Source will apply to all vehicle passengers. Students whose behavior endangers the safety or interferes with the comfort of others may have their riding privileges revoked. Students are accountable to the school principal for their behavior on the school bus. Students will follow instructions from the driver and/or aide. Compensation for damage or destruction of board property by a student is the responsibility of the student and parents/ guardians. This applies to school buses and vans.

PROCESS OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION/ MAJOR INCIDENTS

The driver or Aide will report the student/incident to the principal in writing. The principal will then notify the parents/guardians.

Major incidents may result in immediate withdrawal of bus privileges. The principal may withdraw the student's transportation privileges for one or more days and/or permanently. The principal will notify the parents/ guardians of the bus suspension.

Video Cameras on School Buses

Authorized video cameras on school buses may be used to promote bus safety, good student behavior, aid in driver training and to assist in promoting good driver/student relationships.

Delays and Cancellations

Please call Event Source at 602-291-3526 to determine delay status.