

Student Expectations On A Bus

The following rules apply to students while riding a school bus to and from school:

- Students must scan their bus pass each time they board and exit the bus.
- Students may need to walk up to .40 km to the bus stop
- Students must be at their assigned bus stop at least 5 minutes before their scheduled pick-up time.
- Stay off the roadway while waiting for the bus. Cross at least 3 meters in front of the bus. Never pick up anything that is close to or under the bus.
- Eating or drinking is not permitted on the bus, including treats from school, as this presents a significant choking hazard.
- Taking pictures or videos of other students or the bus driver is strictly prohibited.
- Students must remain seated, facing forward, while riding the bus. Sitting sideways or placing feet or legs in the aisle creates a safety hazard.
- Large items are not permitted on the bus. This includes hockey equipment, band instruments, sports balls, or similar items.
 - All items must be secured inside a backpack that is no larger than 13"x13"x23".
- Loud, disruptive or excessive noise that may distract the driver is not permitted. Quiet conversation with a seatmate is permitted.
- Students must wait until the bus has come to a complete stop before approaching the bus to board. Rushing toward the bus before it has fully stopped creates a serious safety risk.
- Students must remain seated until the bus has come to a complete stop and the door is open. Only then may students stand to exit the bus.
- Students may only ride the bus for which they are registered. Bringing friends on the bus is not permitted.
- Students must treat other students and the bus driver with respect at all times. This includes refraining from swearing, rude or obscene gestures, fighting, or inappropriate behavior.
- Student must not damage any part of their seat and will be responsible for any damage done.
- No part of the body or any object may be held out of the bus windows.
- Throwing items on the bus, such as hats, gloves, coats or sports balls, is not permitted.
- Dress appropriately for the weather.
- Weapons or items considered weapons are not allowed on the bus.
- Drugs, alcohol tobacco, e-cigarettes or other smoking material are not allowed on the bus.
- Students must cooperate with the driver to keep the bus clean.

Bus drivers may complete a student misconduct form when students who do not follow these rules. The form will be provided to the school and the transportation department, and the bus driver or contractor will contact the student's parent/guardian. Repeated offences may result in a suspension of transportation services for up to 5 days and may also result in the suspension of school privileges.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents and guardians are expected to:

- Instruct their child(ren) to obey all school bus rules and regulations.
- Accept responsibility for the proper conduct of their child(ren) before boarding the bus, during the route and after exiting the bus.
- Provide the necessary supervision for their child(ren) when they are going to and from the bus stop.
- Make certain their child(ren) are appropriately dressed for the weather conditions.

If a parent or guardian has a concern regarding a bus driver or bus route, they must not raise the concern with the driver while the bus is in operation. Parents/guardians may contact the bus driver and/or contractor via phone or email, or direct concerns to Black Gold School Division's Transportation Department.

Please also refer to Black Gold School Division's Administrative Procedure 351 – Student Conduct on School Buses.