

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.

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
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 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.

Contact Us

Lost & Found

Lost and found items are left on the bus for approximately one week and are then turned into our transit operations office. Inquiries can be made at 403-320-3885

Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division #4

620 - 12B Street North
Lethbridge, AB T1H 2L7
Phone: 403-327-9555
Website: www.holyspirit.ab.ca

Lethbridge Transit

619 - 4 Avenue North
Lethbridge, AB T1H 0K4
Phone: 403-320-3885
Website: www.lethbridge.ca/transit

Student Transportation Handbook



Rules and Regulations

Lethbridge School District #51



Your Bus Routes

Routes can change throughout the school year. The updated maps can be found at www.lethbridge.ca/transit or on the school board's website.

Your Bus Stops

Students are requested to be at their stop at least 5 minutes prior to the 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 7 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.)

Drivers are not responsible for students who get off at stops other than their designated stop, or students who catch a route which is not their designated route.

Only eligible students, drivers or authorized persons may ride the bus. Students wishing to take friends home are responsible for finding their own way home.

Inclement Weather

News releases will be provided to various radio stations after receiving direction from the school boards as to whether a cancellation will take place in the morning. In the case of a midday decision (early dismissal) parents must be notified as students cannot be sent home if arrangements have not been made for after school care. Failure to contact parents will result in students being dismissed at regular times.

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 may be equipped with video cameras and may be 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. May be appealed to the school board.

Steps may be omitted depending on the severity of the infraction

City Bylaw #2362

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

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.

Failure to comply with the above is subject to a fine under the above article.

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 yellow 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.
- 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.
- The 6 giant step rule is a good measurement for children to identify the Danger Zone around the school bus.