

School Bus Safety Guidelines

We need to work together to ensure safe and efficient transportation of students.



Notes to Parents

- Riding the School bus is a privilege not a right.
- The school bus is an extension of the school, and the same code of conduct and all NLPS Board policies and administrative procedures apply.
- Remember that the proper conduct of your child while waiting for the bus and while riding the bus is your responsibility.
- Parents/guardians are financially responsible for bus damage that is caused by their child.
- Parents and students should be aware that buses are equipped with video cameras to monitor student behaviour.
- Students must be registered and use their bus pass to ride the bus to and from school. Lost or damaged cards will incur a \$10 fee for replacement.
- Students that are not registered cannot ride the bus home with a friend unless a written note from the non-registered parent is provided to the driver.

Unacceptable Items on the Bus

For safety purposes, the Motor Vehicle Act does not permit equipment such as skis, sleds, skateboards, hockey sticks, etc. on a school bus. Only backpacks, small musical instruments and other items that fit comfortably on a student's lap may be transported in the passenger area of a school bus.

Expectations for Students on Buses

Unsafe or harmful actions while riding the bus and are not permitted. Corrective actions will be implemented if a student is reported to have engaged in these behaviours.

- Disregard for Safety Procedures
- Defiance or Disrespect
- Conflict and Aggressive Behaviour
- Possession or Use of Prohibited Items
- Inappropriate Use of Property or Technology

Supportive Responses to Unsafe/Harmful Behaviour

When a student is unable to meet bus behaviour expectations, supportive responses may include verbal reminders, assigned seating, safety notices, or other appropriate measures. If the driver determines a Bus Safety Notice is necessary, the information will be emailed to the parent or guardian, with a copy sent to the school principal. Based on the frequency and severity of the behaviour, the student may be suspended from bus transportation.

Loading and Unloading Procedures

Red Flashing Lights

- a) Used when the bus cannot pull completely off the road.
- b) Not used if the bus can pull completely off the road.

Loading

- a) Students stay in the safety zone (at least 3.7 meters away from the bus) until the bus stops completely.
- b) Students load the bus.

Unloading

- a) Students unload to the safety zone (at least 3.7 meters away from the bus).
- b) Students remain in the safety zone until the bus leaves and disperse when safe to do so.

Winter Weather Service

School bus service may be canceled for the day or limited to winter stops if a route is deemed too hazardous due to snow or ice conditions. In the event of a cancellation, parents will be notified by 7:00 AM through local radio stations (102.3 The Wave, 106.9 The Wolf, and 91.7 Coast FM) and a notice on the district website. Additional route-specific updates, such as a winter route advisory, will be sent via School Messenger to parents' email and text. To ensure you receive these notifications, please keep your contact information updated with the transportation department.