

HOME TO SCHOOL/COLLEGE TRANSPORT

Sanctions for Unacceptable Behaviour

From time to time it is necessary to impose sanctions on children and young people who fail to conform to an acceptable standard of behaviour on County Council provided transport from home to school/college.

We believe that a parent or legal guardian must take responsibility for their children's behaviour on the way to and from school. It is their duty to ensure that their children understand why it is essential to behave properly in the transport provided. Young people over the age of 18 are responsible for their own behaviour and should adhere to the code of conduct. Children and young people must understand themselves, that poor behaviour, especially that which puts at risk the safety of any other child, driver or road user, will lead to a ban on use of the transport provided, and the responsibility of transporting their child to school will transfer to them without any financial support from the County Council.

In return, we will ensure that contracts are monitored to ensure compliance with the law and the contract offered. We will investigate any complaint received from any other party, and be seen to act against anyone who contravenes the policies and agreements entered into. We recognise that the decision whether or not to carry a child or young person is for the Operator, although we will encourage that Operator not to take such a step before discussing any proposed action with the County Council and the Head Teacher of the school involved.

As part of its commitment to providing a safe environment for the transport of children and young people to and from school, we have determined a procedure for dealing with cases of poor behaviour reported to us, and have adopted the following list of sanctions that may be applied in certain circumstances. This is not an exhaustive list, nor is it a definitive statement that in every case the sanction indicated will be applied regardless of other circumstances. Each case will be considered on its individual merits, but if it is proposed to vary from the examples given, consultation will take place with the school and operator concerned.

The sanction will be applied jointly by the Transport Entitlement Team Leader, Children and Young People's Directorate and the Home to School Transport Co-ordinator, Environment Department. Any Appeal will be considered jointly by the Access and Support Services Manager, (CYPD) and the Transport and Procurement Manager, (Environment Department), whose decision will be final.

TARIFF

1 Day Ban

1. Not wearing seat belt.
2. Shouting and swearing.
3. Disobeying an instruction from the driver or any teacher on duty.
4. Eating and drinking on the bus.
5. Leaving rubbish on the bus. *
6. Sticking chewing gum on seats. *

* The culprit may also be required to clean up any mess that may be caused.

1 Week Ban

7. Any repeat of an offence referred to above that resulted in a 1 day ban.
8. Misuse of bell.
9. Shouting and swearing at driver or, in the case of commercial routes, any other fare paying passenger.
10. Smoking.
11. Lack of consideration to other fare paying passengers on commercial routes.

1 Month Ban

12. Any repeat of an offence referred to above that resulted in a 1 week ban.
13. Misuse of emergency exit.
14. Misuse of main entrance door.
15. Fighting.
16. Bullying.
17. Specific and unnecessary distraction of driver.
18. Running around vehicle.
19. Throwing of objects inside or outside vehicle.

1 Term Ban

20. Second offence referred to above that resulted in a 1 month ban.
21. More serious examples of offences that would normally attract a 1 month ban.
22. Damage to vehicle, graffiti, vandalism etc. *
23. Assault on driver or other fare paying passenger on commercial routes. **
24. Possession of drugs and offensive weapons, including replicas. **

* The operator may also require compensation for any damage caused, and such an offence may also lead to the matter being reported to the Police.

**** This is a criminal offence and will lead to the matter being reported to the Police Permanent Ban**

25. Third offence referred to above that resulted in a 1 term ban.
26. More serious offences that would normally attract a 1 term ban.

Notification

Operators will report any unacceptable behaviour to the County Council who will investigate the incident, including the recovery of any CCTV footage, and enforce the appropriate ban outlined above as necessary. Parents will be notified of this action by letter, or where an instant ban is justified, by telephone and later confirmed in writing.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to transport the child to school whilst the ban is in place.