

Our Ref: GC/MD
Your Ref: School Transport
Date: 3 August 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Mainstream School Transport COVID-19 Guidance – Pupil Return

On the 16th July 2020, The Scottish Governments Advisory Sub Group on Education and Children Issues published guidance on school transport provision to support the full time return of pupils on August 12th 2020. Dedicated school transport will be regarded as an extension of the school estate and physical distancing measures between children and young people will not be required, (subject to continued low levels of infection within Scotland). To support the safe transport of children and young people East Ayrshire Council has put in place a range of measures with Transport Operators along with the undernoted guidance for Parents/Carers.

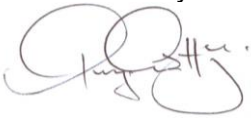
Parents/Carers should follow the undernoted guidance and discuss with their child(ren) to heighten awareness of the cleaning / sanitation practices which they should adopt at this challenging time prior to entering contracted home to school transport to suppress the spread of Covid 19 infection.

- Children / young people should not board dedicated school transport if they, or a member of their household have symptoms of Covid 19
- If a child / young person develops symptoms while at school they will be sent home. They must not travel on regular home-to-school transport. The school should contact the parent/carer who should make appropriate and safe arrangements to collect the child or young person from the school
- Ensure their child / young person washes their hands for 20 seconds using soap and hot water prior to leaving the house and on return
- Consider if the child / young person should wear a face mask. Although advisable this is not enforceable and will be at the discretion of the parent / carer in discussion with their child(ren).
- When transport arrives, parent / carer should remain at a distance to allow the driver to open the passenger doors.
- Once the passenger door is opened the child/young person should enter the vehicle in an orderly manner.
- During the journey child / young person should not move from seat.
- During the journey child / young person should not open or consume food/drink
- During the journey, where possible, child / young person should refrain from touching surfaces, seats, windows and handles
- On arrival at school child / young person should remain seated until driver opens the passenger door.

- Dedicated school transport is covered by a Code of Conduct and in these challenging times it is crucial that children / young people behave on the vehicle to protect themselves and to help ensure the safety of others
- Children / young people should respect the guidance and instruction provided by the driver
- Any behaviour that does not meet the Code of Conduct standard will result in the child / young person being removed from eligibility to receive free school transport

If you would like to discuss or have concerns about your child's specific transport journey, please contact a member of the School Management Team or the School Transport Team on 01563 576419

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George Corbett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

George Corbett
Contracts Manager (Transport)