



EDUCATION RESOURCES

Inclusive Education
Executive Director Tony McDaid

ASN TRANSPORT GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS CARERS & TRANSPORT PROVIDERS COVID -19

On the 16th July, The Scottish Government's Advisory Sub Group on Education and Children's Issues published guidance on school transport provision to support the managed return of pupils on August 12th August. Dedicated school transport will be regarded as an extension of the school estate and physical distancing measures between pupils are not necessary. South Lanarkshire Council will require appropriate mitigations to reduce the spread of the virus including hygiene, ventilation, improved cleaning routines, incorporating frequent and thorough cleaning of surfaces, and regular handwashing. Please note that the situation is fluid and changes could be made in the coming weeks.

Transport Providers and drivers/passenger assistants should follow the undernoted guidance outlining the practices which they should adopt at this challenging time prior to and after the delivery of school transport to avoid the potential spread of Covid-19 infection.

Drivers/Passenger Assistants should:

- Wash their hands for 20 seconds using soap and hot water prior to commencing, and on completion of any journeys
- Consider wearing face masks and gloves, although advisable this will be at the discretion of the transport provider. As a general rule, face coverings should be worn. However, this requires to be balanced with the wellbeing and needs of the children: face coverings may limit communication and could cause distress to some children
- Clean the vehicle using appropriate products prior to leaving to pick up the child/young person
- On arrival at pick up point driver/passenger assistant should open the passenger door and advise the child /young person where to sit. The same seats should be used daily by pupils where possible. School bags should be stored in the boot of the vehicle
- On arrival at school, driver/passenger assistant should open the passenger door for the child/young person
- If any equipment is stored or the child/young person is a wheelchair user, you should ensure that any equipment that is touched is cleaned appropriately prior to handover to school staff at the drop-off location
- On completion of journeys driver/passenger assistant must clean their vehicle paying close attention to door handles, interior handles, steering wheel, handbrake, gear stick or any surfaces that the young person may have touched
- Drivers and Passenger Assistants should wash their hands frequently using soap and water or sanitizer gel

- Enhanced cleaning is especially important where vehicles are used for other purposes before and after transporting children to school
- Vehicle windows should be open, where possible and safe to do so, also ensure that mechanical ventilation uses fresh rather than recirculated air; or use air conditioning with attention paid to the appropriate frequency for changes of filters.

Parents/Carers should follow the undernoted guidance outlining the cleaning / sanitisation practices which they should adopt for their child at this challenging time prior to entering home to school transport provision to avoid the potential spread of Covid 19 infection.

Parents/Carers should follow the instructions below and where possible ensure their child(ren) are aware of the following requirements:

- 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 or young person develops symptoms while at school they will not be transported home by their school transport provider. Instead the school will contact the parent/carer who should make appropriate and safe arrangements to collect the child or young person from the school and book a Covid -19 test
- Before entering the vehicle ensure their child/young person washes their hands for 20 seconds using soap and hot water
- Consider whether the child/young person should wear a face covering, although advisable this will be at the discretion of the parent / carer taking into account the child's needs
- When the vehicle arrives, parent/carer should remain at a 2-metre distance to allow the driver/passenger assistant to open the passenger door
- Once the passenger door is opened the child/young person should enter the vehicle and sit in the seat advised by the driver/passenger assistant
- If child/young person travels with equipment or is a wheelchair user, you should ensure this is cleaned prior to journeys
- Schoolbags will be placed in the boot of the vehicle and toys and gadgets are not permitted at this time
- During the journey child/young person should not move from designated seat
- During the journey child/young person should not consume food or drink
- During the journey, where possible, child/young person should refrain from touching surfaces, seats, windows and handles
- On arrival child/young person should remain seated until driver/passenger assistant opens the passenger door and is met by a member of school staff
- Children / young people should follow the guidance and instruction provided by the driver/passenger assistant. This will help protect them and help ensure the safety of others