

Bitterley C of E Primary School Academy 2-11



Bitterley, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 3HF

Telephone: 01584 890228

Email: admin@bitterley.shropshire.sch.uk

Friday 5th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Safe behaviour on school buses

In light of a recent incident on one of the school busses we would like to remind parents that if a problem occurs they should contact the school in the first instance.

Staff and Local Academy Board Members, working alongside the Local Authority, are committed to providing safe travel to and from school for all children who use school transport.

As a result, we feel it is appropriate to remind all children and parents of their own responsibility for safe behaviour on the school bus.

We will discuss the correct code of conduct for travelling on the school bus with children in school, please help us by reinforcing the message at home.

Advice for children:

- Do not play near the road whilst waiting for the school bus. Wait on the pavement in a safe position well back from the road.
- Don't go near the bus until it has stopped.
- Do not push to get on the bus.
- Find a seat quickly without pushing. Wear your seat belt.
- Listen to the driver and do as he or she says. The driver's job is to drive the bus safely. You must not shout or cause a disturbance. If you need to say something important wait until it is safe to do so.
- Do not move about the bus until it has stopped.
- Report any incident to the driver when the vehicle is stopped.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus. Take litter off the bus with you.
- Do not damage the school bus or interfere with doors, windows or safety belt fastenings.

- Keep the gangway clear of bags.

Once at school:

- Do not try to get off bus until it has stopped and a member of staff is ready to escort them off the bus.
- Make sure you collect all of your belongings, such as bags and coats.
- Wait for a member of school staff to see you safely off the bus.
- Be polite and courteous at all times. You are representing yourself, your family and your school!
- Bad language and unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated.
- You need to be safe and keep others safe on the school bus, please allow everyone to enjoy their journey.

Advice for parents:

- Please ensure that children are accompanied to the bus stop, that they arrive in good time and are supervised until the bus arrives.
- Please make sure that your child is aware of the dangers of behaving in a disorderly way. Please ask them to behave sensibly.
- Please ensure that your child is met when the bus returns and remember that children often forget road safety as they get off the bus.
- Please ask your child to show the driver respect and to listen to any instructions he or she may give.
- Please encourage your child to behave safely on the bus, remain seated at all times and to wear a seat belt.
- If you have any concerns about safety on your child's school bus or about an incident that may have taken place during a journey, please contact the school immediately. Please be mindful that school staff are not responsible for children once they have boarded the school bus.

Generally, behaviour on the school buses is exemplary and there is little need for intervention. If we are made aware of an incident however, this will be dealt with appropriately and in a timely manner and with full communication with the school transport provider.

Yours sincerely,

M Halstead

Head of School