



## **Hessle High School & Sixth Form College**

### **School Bus Expectation and Behaviour Contract 2024-2025**

The school bus service which you are provided with from home to school and back again, is a privilege not a right. In order to make the riding experience safer for all, there are rules that all students must follow while under the supervision of the bus driver. If students are unable to follow the rules of safe school bus riding, students will be denied the privilege of being transported by the school bus.

The school bus service provided for students is an extension of the school, in that, all school rules, expectations and consequences apply while students are being transported to and from school. By travelling on a school bus, students and parents agree to abide by the school 'Bus Behaviour Code'. This contract must be signed and followed in order to continue using the school bus. Any violation of the 'Bus Behaviour Code' may result in the denial of school bus privileges. Any misbehaviour will be followed up with students who breach this code.

#### **Reporting of incidents**

Safe travel and good behaviour on the school bus is essential for the safety of students, the Academy's reputation in the community and with the bus companies. The Hessle Academy maintain close links with the bus companies with whom we work and will investigate all incidents of misbehaviour or damage on buses using current school policy and procedures. These are centrally logged and are available to Tutors and House Leaders.

The same standards of behaviour are expected of students when travelling on a school bus as are expected when in school. Where students fail to behave appropriately, action will be taken to address the misbehaviour in the interests of other passengers, the driver and members of the public.

Anyone can report an incident on a school bus service, including students, residents, members of staff, drivers and other members of the public. They may do so to the bus company and/or the school. All incidents will be investigated and treated seriously. If you wish to report an incident on the school bus, you should, in the first instance, notify a member of the Student Services team who will investigate the incident. This should be done as soon as possible so that immediate action can be taken.

#### **Missing the bus**

If a student misses the bus in the morning, they should make every effort to attend school, but they should not walk to school. If buses are late, at the end of the day, students are asked to wait, following the staff guidance, until they arrive. They must not walk off site and a member of staff will supervise students whilst they wait.

#### **Fares**

Staff on duty have no responsibility for collecting fares; that is the responsibility of the bus company. Students boarding a bus without the correct fare or bus pass will be refused travel by the driver. The school will issue a single journey bus token should a return ticket be lost or a bus fare be incomplete, this should be repaid in cash as soon as possible. Persistent infringement of fare avoidance will not be allowed and further action will be taken against offending students.

#### **Sanctions**

Everyone has the right to a safe and calm journey to or from school. To ensure that everyone can do that, it may on occasion be necessary to issue a sanction (punishment) to students who break the Bus Behaviour Code (see below). These sanctions consist of warning letters, short or medium term bans, permanent ban, payment of damages or prosecution following a police investigation.

## **Bus Behaviour Code**

All students who travel on buses must follow the bus code to ensure safe travel:

- I will be at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to depart.
- I will wait for the bus in a place that is clear of traffic, and as far back from the road as possible.
- If I am waiting for the bus in a group, I will maintain appropriate boundaries and behaviour.
- I agree to follow the direction of the school bus driver in a courteous and respectful manner.
- I agree to go directly to an available seat.
- I agree to always remain seated during the ride.
- I agree to listen and follow any instructions given by the driver or member of staff.
- I agree to keep my hands, head, arms and legs inside the vehicle.
- I will not stand upstairs and will only stand downstairs when the bus is full.
- I will not stand on the platform near the driver.
- I will not play with, or open, emergency exit equipment.
- I will not throw or pass around any object(s).
- I will not throw items out of the windows.
- I will not leave any items on the bus, including litter.
- I agree to interact positively with peers; and use appropriate voice tone, volume and language.
- I will not distract the driver.
- I will not smoke or vape on the bus.
- I will not vandalise the vehicle or anyone else's property.
- I will not exchange, trade or borrow any items from other students – all students are responsible for their own personal belongings.
- I agree to respect everyone's (driver and students) personal space, and their right to a peaceful ride to school. Therefore I will not argue, swear, use obscene gestures, bully, antagonize, or fight.
- I will not bring or use hazardous or harmful materials on the bus.

I have read the bus code of conduct and if I chose not to follow the expectations and the rules of the school bus service, I will be denied my privilege of using the school bus.

Bus used\*:            H 1            H2            H3            H4            (\*circle bus used)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME CLEARLY

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME CLEARLY

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_