



St Nicholas Catholic High School

Travel Expectations & Guidance

This position statement is written in line with DfE guidance 2016 '*Behaviour and Discipline in Schools*' with particular reference to paragraphs 23-26 '*Pupils' conduct outside the school gates – teachers' powers*'

This guidance is provided to support all those involved in home to school transport, to ensure that we all work together to achieve a clear and transparent policy about behaviour on school specific vehicles and public transport as appropriate. The consequences of poor behaviour can be wide ranging and the following guidance has been written taking into account the *Education and Inspections Act 2006* and the Department for Education guidance *Behaviour and Discipline in Schools – guidance for Headteachers and Staff*.

The same high standards of behaviour and discipline are expected by St Nicholas' students when travelling to and from school using School Bus Services and public transport.

To promote consistency in responding to behaviour problems, the following categories have been identified. These have been identified to provide a guide and are not exhaustive.

(1) Nuisance behaviour

- Any behaviour that is irritating or unpleasant but not dangerous
- Failing or refusing to show a ticket when boarding
- Eating on the school bus
- Using inappropriate and/or offensive language
- Failing to following instructions from staff or the driver

Action:

In all instances, the driver, upon arrival at the school, will report this to a senior member of staff at the school.

Initially the driver of the vehicle will deal with these types of incidents informally. If the incident is more serious, the driver will complete an incident report; it is expected that drivers will be able to handle such situations. The incident report will be provided to the school.

Students observing such behaviour should report incidents to their Year Leader

Possible Sanctions:

- The School will issue a 'Stage 1' Letter to Parents & Carers
- After School Detention
- Internal Exclusion

(2) Dangerous behaviour/destructive behaviour

- Distracting the driver verbally or with threatening behaviour
- Harassing and bullying other passengers
- Inappropriate conduct towards the public or other students
- Throwing objects inside or out of the bus
- Preventing others from getting on or off the bus
- Standing, jumping or running up and down the aisles
- Refusing to wear a seatbelt when these are provided.
- Any other behaviours which pose a threat to the health and safety of passengers and driver
- Repeated incidents of 'nuisance behaviour'

Action:

The driver should stop the vehicle and warn the passengers about their behaviour. If this behaviour continues and it would be hazardous to continue the journey, for instance, in extreme cases, the police would be called.

In all instances, the driver, upon arrival at the school, will report this to a senior member of staff at the school.

Where incidents occur on the homeward journey, the incident report would be submitted to the school the following day, and the matter again, would be reported to the senior member of staff at the school on duty that morning.

Possible Sanctions:

- The School will issue a 'Stage 2' Letter to Parents & Carers
- Bus Ban for a stipulated period of time as determined by the school/travel company
- Internal Exclusion
- Fixed Term Exclusion
- Invoice for any damage caused

3) Highly dangerous/destructive behaviour

- Physically attacking the driver or other passengers
- Marking or damaging the bus or other property by a St Nicholas student
- Throwing objects out of the window which has the potential to cause harm and/or damage.
- Repeated instances of dangerous or nuisance behaviour
- Interfering with emergency exits, doors or windows
- Threatening other users with an offensive weapon

Action:

In all instances, the driver, upon arrival at the school, will report this to a senior member of staff at the school.

Possible Sanctions:

- It is highly likely that any breach in this section would result in an immediate and/or indefinite ban, the involvement of the police and an invoice for any damage caused.
- Fixed Term Exclusion / Permanent Exclusion