

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

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April 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

We pride ourselves on offering a comprehensive and efficient school bus service. It is important to have regular reminders regarding pupil behaviours and conduct so the services continue to run smoothly.

Bus Tickets

In recent weeks we have seen an increase in pupils not having a bus ticket at the end of the school day, often for the following reasons:

- Lost paper bus tickets
- Mobile phones have no battery (electronic ticket)
- Mobile phones have no data (electronic ticket)

As this is becoming an issue, please could we ask that you remind your child to keep their phone charged or their paper ticket in a safe place? It is also a good habit for them to carry an emergency bus fund in cash, perhaps stored in a small money bag inside their school bag or zipped inside their blazer pocket.

Missing the Bus

Occasionally a pupil may miss the school bus at the end of the day. Please discuss with your child what their 'plan B' would be if this was to happen to them.

Behaviour and Conduct

Disappointingly, we have had some instances of anti-social behaviour by a small number of pupils whilst travelling to and from school on the school bus. Recent reports include:

- spraying pupils with drinks/water
- use of foul language - also shouting this out of windows
- throwing things from windows whilst the bus is moving
- vaping

I would request that all parents and carers remind their child about behaviour and expectations whilst travelling on the bus. We will also be reminding pupils about their conduct on the bus when we return after Easter, including the consequences of being refused bus travel for significant poor behaviour or persistent poor behaviour.

Changes to bus routes and services:

Please read carefully important information regarding the **487/582/81/567** school bus services.

Believe.....

567

This service will now leave school on the 1st wave, rather than the 2nd wave. Pupils who use this service should now make their way to the black bus gates (behind the Chapel) at 3.05pm.

487

From 19 April 2022, the 487 Abbeystead service will revert to its pre-pandemic route and timetable. This means that Ripley pupils will share the service with pupils from other local secondary schools. Please check the timetable at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/school-transport/school-bus-timetables/> before travel.

81/582/82

From 4 April 2022, in partnership with Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire, Lancashire County Council will introduce a new set of routes and timetables for the Lune Valley bus network.

The **81 service will continue to operate, on a slightly different route**, please do see the proposed changes attached. This service will not stop in Halton (pupils that travel in from Halton will need to use the 82 service). The 81 service will also become a **2nd wave** bus and pupils will need to make their way to the quads at 3.05pm rather than the bus gates.

The **582 service will be re-numbered and be known as the 82 service**, it remains as a **2nd wave** bus. Again, please carefully check the timetable.

81 and 82 services

These timetables are correct at the time of writing, however due these being new services Lancashire County Council advise that you check the timetable at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport/bus-timetables/> before travel.

	81	82
Kirkby Lonsdale	07:10	07:15
Whittington	-	07:23
Arkholme	-	07:30
Gressingham	-	07:36
Nether Burrow	07:19	-
Tunstall	07:22	-
Melling	07:27	-
Wennington	07:32	-
Wray	07:36	-
Hornby	07:43	07:43
Brookhouse	07:51	07:51
Caton	07:55	07:55
Halton Community Centre	-	08:03
Lancaster Business Park	08:01	08:09
Lancaster Bus Station	08:14	08:22
Ripley St Thomas	08:24	08:32

	81	82
Ripley St Thomas	2 nd Wave	2 nd Wave
Lancaster Bus Station	15:50	15:50
Lancaster Business Park	15:58	15:58
Halton Community Centre	-	16:04
Caton	16:04	16:12
Brookhouse	16:08	16:16
Hornby	16:18	16:26
Wray	16:24	-
Wennington	16:29	-
Melling	16:35	-
Tunstall	16:40	-
Nether Burrow	16:43	-
Gressingham	-	16:31
Arkholme	-	16:38
Whittington	-	16:45
Kirkby Lonsdale	16:50	16:53

Thank you for your support in helping us to address these matters, in the interest of the safety and welfare of all our pupils.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Benter
Vice Principal



Catching the school bus

Please behave sensibly and responsibly when travelling to and from school for your own safety. If you misbehave you may have your travel pass taken away or be excluded from using school bus services.

1

Be at the stop 5 minutes before. Queue sensibly and keep well away from the kerb. Give a clear signal so the bus driver knows to stop. Make sure you are boarding the bus at the correct stop.

2

Pay your fare and try to have the correct change. Keep your ticket to show the inspector and/or for your return journey.

3

If you use a bus pass/season ticket, it must always be presented to the bus driver - allow time for it to be examined. Bus passes/season tickets are not transferable and should only be used on the service for which they are assigned. If you cannot show a valid pass you must pay your fare. Lost or damaged passes can be replaced for a fee by the County Council on 0300 123 6738.

4

Misuse and fraudulent use of travel passes is treated very seriously and could lead to prosecution.

5

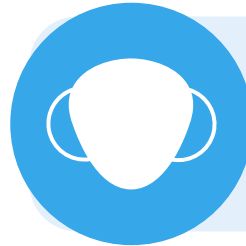
Take your seat, please wear a seat belt if one is provided. Place bags in the luggage compartment/under your seat/on your knees. Don't place bags on seats or in the aisle.

6

Don't take up more than one seat or walk around during the journey.

7

Antisocial behaviour/damage to the bus or anyone's property/bullying on the bus, is taken very seriously and can be reported to the police. Please report incidents to the driver, a teacher or a parent. Do not throw anything whilst on the bus, at the bus or from the bus.



Face

please wear a face covering when on school transport

8

All bus and taxi services have No Smoking Policies including all e-cigarettes and vaping devices.

9

Respect others at all times and never distract your driver.

10

Make sure you know which stop you are getting off at and to alert the driver by pressing the bell only once or asking them to stop at the next bus stop.

Never override past the bus stop you have paid for. Overriding could lead to prosecution.

11

When leaving the bus please take the time to thank your bus driver.

12

Remember to take all of your belongings when you leave the bus.

13

Let the bus depart before crossing the road. Find a safe place to cross and remember: Stop, Look and Listen.

14

DO NOT text/use your mobile phone when crossing roads. Remove ear accessories to allow you to hear any oncoming traffic. CONCENTRATE - often accidents happen due to a lack of concentration.