

The Code outlines expected standards of primary, middle and secondary school student behaviour while travelling on buses so that bus travel can be safe and enjoyable for everyone. The Code encourages all students to be safe and responsible passengers, provides clear processes for dealing with misconduct, outlines categories of inappropriate behaviour, consequences for students who misbehave and the rights and responsibilities of those involved in school bus transport.

Parents/carers need to ensure that their children have the necessary skills and knowledge to be safe and responsible bus travellers and are capable of travelling independently on the bus. You can support your children by talking about the Code to ensure that they are aware of their rights and responsibilities and the consequences of misconduct on the bus.

Ensuring the safe transport of each and every child is a shared responsibility which brings together the efforts of students, their parents/carers, schools, bus drivers and bus operators. If there are any bus conduct issues involving your child it is important that you cooperate with the bus operator and the school principal in discussing reported incidents of bus misconduct and in implementing agreed consequences. **!SÍ AÍ PARENT CARER Í YOU Í PLAY A Í LEADING ROLE IN INFLUENCING AND** guiding your child's behaviour. Therefore, your involvement in this process is essential to ensure a satisfactory resolution and to help your child understand the importance of safe and responsible bus behaviour.

Parents' and carers' roles

To actively support bus safety with their school aged children.

Parents' and carers' rights

- Safe and comfortable travel for their children.
- To be respected and treated fairly.
- To be consulted and to receive accurate information about the bus behaviour of their children.

Parents' and carers' responsibilities

- To ensure that their children are capable of travelling independently on the bus.
- To ensure their children have an understanding of the Code and the bus rules.
- To communicate respectfully with the operator, school and transport staff.
- To teach their children about bus safety and consequences for misconduct.
- To demonstrate appropriate bus travel behaviours to their children.
- To co-operate with the school and bus operator in managing bus misconduct.
- To ensure the safe travel of their children to and from the bus stop.
- To be available for discussions about the behaviour of their children.

Parents' and carers' expected behaviours

- To provide their children with the correct bus fare.
- To cooperate with their children's school and the bus operator in discussing behaviour incidents and in implementing any agreed disciplinary action.
- To communicate with the bus operator and the school about their children's bus transport and respond to phone and written communication.
- To address concerns about their children's bus travel by promptly contacting the bus operator so that relevant issues can be managed using the procedures outlined in the Code.

What if a student does not pay the bus fare?

Unfortunately, the incidence of fare evasion by school students has increased in recent times. Some students have exploited the framework for safe travel of school students by not paying the correct fare, thinking that they will not be