

Dedicated school transport – buses, coaches, taxis and minibuses

School vehicles will continue to be filled to their normal capacity and the following will apply:

- transport will be provided at the normal start and end of the school day
- requests for change to services should only be actioned if the instruction has been made or confirmed by Transport Services Group (TSG)
- parents and carers should help their child to maintain social distancing whilst queuing at bus stops, and ensure children understand how to use transport safely whilst socially distancing where possible. Children themselves are responsible for acting upon this, where they are able to
- schools and colleges should put in place appropriate queuing or other arrangements needed for picking up and dropping off children at school or college
- all passengers are expected and strongly recommended to wear a face covering throughout the journey on dedicated school transport if they are not exempt and are able to use them properly. **It is acknowledged that operators are able to set their own conditions of carriage in relation to face coverings and these should be clearly publicised** on the company's vehicles.
- drivers must focus on driving vehicles safely, so are not responsible for overseeing whether children are following advice and guidance in relation to infection control. However, major incidents of non-compliance should be reported through the **Max Respect Incident Reporting Process**
- drivers should ensure they maximise ventilation within the vehicle by opening windows and ceiling vents where possible
- operators must maintain a high standard of cleanliness on their vehicles and should put in place and maintain an appropriate cleaning schedule with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces
- operators may also have other infection prevention control measures in place and you are advised to review and revise these as necessary together with all risk assessments relating to the safe carriage of passengers during the COVID pandemic
- if a child needs help from parents getting into a vehicle, we recommend parents limit the time they spend in the vehicle, wear a face covering and also wash their hands thoroughly before and after
- children must not consume food or drink on vehicles