



27th November 2023

Mr I Critchley
Principal BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Dear Parents/Carers

Transport to School: Buses

The bus service continues to be an important method of travel to and from school for a number of our students. Although this is a public service, generally accessed solely by our students, behaviour on this service should uphold the core values of our school.

The vast majority of our students respect this and always endeavour to display the values of respect and excellence in regards to their behaviour and attitudes. Recently we have had reports that a minority of students have displayed anti-social and unacceptable behaviour on the bus service.

Due to this and in conjunction with Merseytravel's 'TravelSafe Partnership' we are setting our expectations again for behaviour whilst using this service. Although pupils may not be on the school premises, they remain subject to the behaviour for learning policy while travelling to and from school and ultimately you are responsible for their behaviour.

Any incidents of anti-social or unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated, reported incidents will be fully investigated. This may lead to a pupil being temporarily or permanently suspended from using the service. In some cases, this may also lead to involvement with the Police which may result in prosecution. If a pupil is suspended from using the bus the responsibility of ensuring a pupil attends school regularly remains with parents/carers.

Students should display the following behaviours whilst using the service:

- Be at the pick-up point before the bus is scheduled to arrive and wait for the bus on the pavement well back from the road.
- Wait until the bus has stopped before trying to embark or disembark.
- Wait until the bus had moved off before crossing the street.
- Not act in a way which is dangerous to themselves or anyone else.
- Treat the driver with respect and follow their instructions.
- Have consideration for other passengers, not use offensive language or behave in a manner that could cause harm or upset others.
- Take care of the bus. Causing damage to the bus could result in the pupil or his/her parents/carers having to pay the bus company for the cost of repairs and could also lead to prosecution.
- Report any dangerous behaviour by other pupils to their driver, parents/carers or teachers. Remember, serious misbehaviour will lead to sanctions in line with the school's behaviour for learning policy.

Please be advised that CCTV is in operation and can be shared with both the school and police.

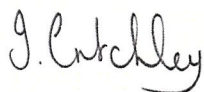
Below is an extract from the school's behaviour for learning policy which clearly outlines the school's power to discipline beyond the school gates.

'Teachers have the statutory power to discipline students for misbehaving outside of the school premises. Section 89(5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives teachers statutory power to regulate students' behaviour in these circumstances "to such an extent as is reasonable." At Halewood Academy we will impose reasonable sanctions for any student taking part in a school trip, travelling to and from school, wearing school uniform or in some other way identifiable as a student at the school including on social media. This may also apply to students that pose a threat to another student or member of the public or could adversely affect the reputation of the school. These will be subject to a statement(s) being completed or a report from staff, students or member of the public. An investigation will take place and consequences will be imposed that are deemed reasonable in all circumstances.'

I trust that I have your full support to ensure that all passengers/students that use the public bus service to and from school can travel safely.

If you wish to share information regarding inappropriate behaviour on the buses then please contact admin@halewoodacademy.co.uk or use the contact page on the website.

Yours faithfully



Mr I Critchley
Principal