

Riding the school bus!

## HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT TRANSPORTATION IN HRCE



#### TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Nova Scotia's School Transportation Policy includes eligibility criteria, student safety and behaviour information, as well as roles and responsibilities of students, parents/ guardians, bus drivers, principals, etc.

# DID YOU KNOW?

Parents/guardians (or designate) are responsible for:

- Accompanying Pre-Primary to Grade 2 children to the bus stop (and supervising them until safely boarded), as well as greeting them at the stop at the end of the day. If they are not at the stop to meet their child, parents/guardians will be contacted and the child will be returned to the school for pick up after the bus run is complete.
- Buckling and unbuckling the seat belt for their child (if they are less than 40 pounds and 57 inches in height, and only if a seat belt is available). Bus drivers cannot leave their seats. At the school, staff will buckle and unbuckle children.

We also use the Purple Tag Program. This program helps school staff and bus drivers identify children in Pre-Primary to Grade 2 to ensure they are not left alone at a stop and receive the assistance they may need.

## FIRST MONTH OF SCHOOL

A few reminders for families:

- Students should arrive 10 minutes early to the bus stop.
- Expect delays in the first few weeks while new fall routines (for everyone!) get underway.
- Students can bring small sports equipment like baseball gloves on the bus as long as they are stored safely.
- Students can't bring open food or drinks on the bus.





## HRCE WEBSITE

Visit www.hrce.ca/ families/studenttransportation for more information about busing, including safety information, what students can take on a bus, inclement weather guidelines, and transportation FAQs!

#### BUSPLANNER'S PARENT PORTAL

Families with children eligible for transportation will receive an email to activate a BusPlanner Parent Portal account, where they can look up times and stop locations. There is also an option to receive email and text message notifications about service delays and other changes to busing. **Note:** Notifications are sent for delays greater than 15 minutes.

QUESTIONS?

transportation@hrce.ca