



Student Transportation

Living With COVID-19

Safety is always a priority for HRCE Transportation and our service providers. As we continue to live with COVID-19 this year, there are additional measures in place to ensure the safety of riders, drivers and monitors.

- Before heading to the bus stop, families must screen children each day using the [COVID-19 Daily Checklist](#).
- To start the school year, all children, students, monitors and drivers are required to wear non-medical masks in school and on the bus. Masking will be revisited once the province enters Phase 5 of reopening.
- High touch surfaces will be cleaned before and after each run.

Transportation Policy

Nova Scotia's [School Transportation Policy](#) includes eligibility based on distance criteria. Families can check their transportation eligibility at:

hrcetransportation.mybusplanner.ca

BusPlanner's Parent Portal

If a child is eligible, they will be routed automatically following registration. Families will then 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 notifications about routing changes or bus cancellations/delays. Please note: notifications are only sent if the delay is greater than 15 minutes.

If a family moves or changes daycares, they must contact their child's school with an updated address or alternate address. This change may affect eligibility and/or routing.

Transportation Outside Eligibility

As per the School Transportation Policy under section 5.3, the availability of any of the very few unassigned seats for students who aren't eligible for busing will be determined after September 30th, 2021, **once all eligible bus students are routed**. To submit a request for an unassigned seat, [click here](#).

Pre-Primary & Primary to Grade 2 Students

Parents/Guardians (or designate) are responsible for:

- Accompanying Pre-Primary to Grade 2 children to the bus stop (and supervising until safely boarded), as well as greeting the child at the stop at the end of the day. If they are not at the stop to meet the child, the parent/guardian (or designate) will be contacted and the child will be returned to the school for pick up.
- 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.

The First Month of School

Riders should arrive 10 minutes early to the bus stop. Expect some delays in the first few weeks while new fall routines (for everyone!) get underway.

Questions?

HRCE's Transportation Team is ready to help:

 902-431-4723

 transportation@hrce.ca

 hrce.ca/transportation