## **Surrey Christian School Bus Guidelines**

We are grateful to be able to offer our families safe and reliable bus transportation to and from school. Routes are set in August by the Combined Christian School Transportation Association (CCSTA), a not for profit bus company that services five local Christian schools (while maintaining a fleet of 21 buses servicing 16 different school routes). Surrey Christian School (SCS) subsidizes approximately 2/3 of the cost of bus transportation for families, and is charged by CCSTA for 10 months based on the confirmed student ridership as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. Families wishing to make changes to school bus arrangements must do so no later than September 30th. After that, SCS must pay CCSTA for the seat regardless of whether the student is on vacation, only partially using it, or not using it at all.

## **Commonly Asked Questions:**

- 1. *It is September 15th. Can I cancel my bus ridership?*Yes, you can up until September 30th although you will be charged for the full month of September.
- 2. It is after September 30th. Can I cancel my bus ridership?
  Yes, you may cancel your ridership, however you will be required to pay for the bus service until the end of the school year.
- 3. *I would like to switch from 2-way ridership to 1-way ridership. Can I do that?*Yes, you may do so, but if it is after October 1st you will be charged the 2-way rate for the balance of the school year.
- 4. My family is going to be overseas for two months. Can I cancel my bus fees for that period?

  No. The school is charged for that period by CCSTA regardless of whether your children are riding the bus.
- 5. I am only going to need the bus for 4 months. Can I pay only for that period?

  No. We cannot accommodate partial ridership as the school is charged for the full 10-month period. The exception will be made for new riders joining established bus routes or for families that move and no longer require the bus.
- 6. I only need the bus 3 days a week. Can I pay for 3-day service?
  Unfortunately, you cannot because we are charged for 5-day a week service.
- 7. It is January and my family has moved and we now require the bus. Can I sign up?
  Yes, you can as long as there is room on the bus. You can join an existing stop along the route. We are unable to change the bus route to include new riders as this will lengthen the time that the other riders are on the bus. It will be reviewed the following August when bus routes for the new school year are set.
- 8. We want to change our bus stop for a 2-week period while my children are staying at another address. Can we do that?
  - It is possible that the children may join an existing route for that period provided there is capacity on the route. This cannot be guaranteed and will be done on a best efforts basis depending on the existing schedule of CCSTA. They cannot add extra stops as this will impact the length of the ridership for all students.
- 9. My child wants to have a friend come over after school on the bus. Is this allowed?

  Yes, provided there is space on the bus and it is a one-time arrangement versus a continued method of transportation home for your child's friend.
- 10. Can we buy vouchers for the bus so we can use it when our family requires it?

  No, as the bus is reserved for those families who have committed to pay for the bus for the full 10-month period.
- 11. There is no one available to meet my child at the bus stop. Can the driver drop my child off?

  Drivers have been advised not to drop off children under 10 years old if no one is there to meet them unless we have received a permission letter signed by a parent or guardian.