

Combined Christian School Transportation Association

August 2020

Policy: COVID-19 Safety Plan for CCSTA students

Purpose: The purpose of this policy to implement a safety plan for both employees and students.

Risks: Close physical proximity and contaminated surfaces.

Protocols to reduce risks:

STUDENT SAFETY

- Proper hand washing is the best practice for stopping the spread of the virus. Hand washing prior to and after each trip on the bus is recommended for everyone.
- Parents should supply their child with a face covering to wear while on the bus. *Exception* to the face mask rule applies to students with disabilities or health conditions that prevent them from wearing the covering.

LOADING AND UNLOADING

- All students will load from back to front when being picked up and unload from front to back when being dropped off. This will limit close contact between students on the bus. Students are encouraged to walk to their seat without touching seats as they pass as much as possible.
- Upon arrival at school, buses are staggered, and students will only disembark one bus at a time.

SEATING PLANS

- Seat assignments for students will be mandatory and must be followed by the driver and enforced by the Principal. Seat movement of students will not be permitted.
- The seat one row behind the driver will be closed to students.
- Prioritize students sharing a seat with a member of their household or cohort.
- The seating arrangement can be altered whenever necessary to support student health and safety (e.g. accommodating children with a physical disability, responding to behavioural issues, etc.).
 - o ***If space is available***, students will be assigned to their own seat. Buses will be limited to maximum of 2 students per seat
- Parents will not be permitted to enter buses at stops
- Schools/CCSTA will keep up-to-date passenger lists. This is required to trace any possibility if a student contracts COVID-19 from riding the bus.
- **Students not on the route list will not be allowed to enter the bus.**

ITEMS ON A VEHICLE

- Students cannot bring large items on the bus that would not ordinarily fit in a knapsack.
- All waste containers are to be removed from the vehicle. Remember there is no food or drink permitted on a school bus.

STAY HOME WHEN SICK

- Any student, staff or other person within the school who has symptoms of COVID-19 OR travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days OR was identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate, including children of essential service workers.
- Any student, staff, or other person within the school who has cold, influenza, or COVID-19-like symptoms should seek assessment by a health-care provider.
 - o Students or staff may still ride the bus if a member of their household has cold, influenza, or COVID-19-like symptoms, provided the student/staff is asymptomatic. It is expected the symptomatic household member is seeking assessment by a health-care provider.
 - o Students and staff who experience seasonal allergies or other COVID-19-like symptoms, which are related to an existing condition can continue to ride the bus when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If they experience any change in symptoms they should seek assessment by a health-care provider.

HEALTH

- Drivers must report any cold or flu symptoms to the Transportation Manager and not report to work.
- Anyone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 10 days is prohibited from the workplace. Symptoms include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, and new muscle aches or headache.

CLEANING OF VEHICLES

- High touch areas (ie: handles and seat tops) will be sanitized after each route. Electrostatic spray sanitizer all bus surfaces after each route.
- High touch area including buttons, handrails, steering wheels, door handles, shift knobs, seat tops, windows and floor mopping will occur daily.
- Ventilation (ie: windows opened) when possible during route.
- Drivers to use masks while sanitizing

PHYSICAL SAFETY

- Bus drivers should clean their hands often, including before and after completing trips. They are encouraged to regularly use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol during trips.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on each bus and used by each driver upon entering or exiting the bus.
- Drivers will have available proper PPE for their runs and cleaning will take place after each run.
- Drivers must wear a non-medical mask and/or a face shield when they cannot physically distance.

BUSES

- Drivers will have assigned buses and will not switch from bus to bus.
- Buses will have the following onboard;
 - o Gloves and masks for drivers
 - o Tissues
 - o Paper towel
 - o Motion sick bags
 - o Microfiber cloth
 - o Approved disinfectant