RISSALAH COLLEGE

TRAVELLING SAFELY ON THE SCHOOL BUS POLICY

2014

(UPDATED 2014)
Traveling Safely On School Bus Policy

Purpose:
The school buses are owned by the school and the bus drivers are sub-contracted by the school. The Deputy Principal can intervene when complaints are made regarding a child’s behaviour on the bus that may place other students at risk or affect their wellbeing.

Guidelines:
When a complaint is received regarding a child’s inappropriate behaviour on the bus, the Deputy Principal will speak to the child and explain the safety and welfare issues. The student will be advised that if there is a second offence or incident, then his or her parents will be informed by letter. If a third offence occurs, the child will be taken off the bus and the parents must arrange alternative transport for the student.

Bus Drivers must be subjected to a Working with Children Check and must sign the Prohibited Employment Declaration Form.

Procedure
Each student code of conduct shall include the following specific provisions prescribing and governing student conduct and safety rules on all school buses:

- Students shall be prohibited from acts of physical violence, physical assault or battery of other persons on the school bus; verbal assault of other persons on the school bus, disrespectful conduct toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus, and other unruly behavior.

- Students shall be prohibited from using any electronic devices during the operation of the school bus, including but not limited to cell phones, pagers, audible radios, tape or compact disc players without headphones, or any other device that might interfere with the school bus communications equipment or the school bus driver’s operation of the school bus.
• Students shall be prohibited from using mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective devices in a manner that might interfere with the school bus driver’s operation of the school bus.

• If a student is found to have engaged in any inappropriate behavior whilst travelling on the school bus a meeting of the parent or guardian must be held to form a school bus behavior contract whenever:
  • A student is found to have engaged in bullying; or,
  • A student is found to have engaged in physical assault or battery of another person on the school bus.

The school bus behavior contract shall provide for age-appropriate discipline, penalties, and restrictions for student misconduct on the bus. Provisions may include, but are not limited to, assigned seating, ongoing parental involvement, and suspension from riding the bus.

Rissalah College shall ensure that students riding a bus, grades K-6, receive instruction annually in safe riding practices.

The school will instruct students in safe riding practices and shall explain each rule and the reasons behind the rule.

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