

South Windsor Public Schools
BUS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Parents/Guardians should review Bus Rules and Regulations annually with students

ELIGIBILITY

In general, the Board of Education provides transportation in accordance with transportation policies. Bus stops are located at corners and/or intersections. Children are expected to conform to regular standards of behavior while being transported to and from school. Transportation may be denied to any child who does not behave properly on the bus. The decision to withhold transportation rests with the principal of the school and in each case parents will be informed.

LEAVING FOR SCHOOL

1. Arrive at the bus stop at least **five (5) minutes** before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
2. Avoid wearing loose clothing or scarves, clothing with long drawstrings, or backpacks with long straps or dangling attachments that might get caught in the bus handrail or door.
3. Wait on the sidewalk or curbside away from the road. Stand back from the road ten feet whenever possible.
4. Respect the property where you stand and wait for the bus.
5. Do not run or play ball at the bus stop.
6. Do not play in or near the road.
7. Do not allow your pet to follow you to the bus stop.
8. In winter, never walk or play on snow banks. In fall, never play in the leaves on the side of the road. You could fall under the wheels of an automobile or bus.

STUDENTS SHOULD REMAIN AWAY FROM THE BUS UNTIL READY TO BOARD!

BOARDING THE SCHOOL BUS

1. Stand back from the road ten feet whenever possible.
2. If you just miss or completely miss the bus:
 - **DO NOT FLAG DOWN OR CHASE AFTER THE BUS—THIS IS UNSAFE!**
 - **DO NOT RACE TO ANOTHER BUS STOP—THIS IS UNSAFE!**

(Parents will need to arrange transportation to school if a student misses the bus.)
3. When the bus approaches **REMAIN TEN FEET** away from the road. Form a line. **DO NOT PUSH OR SHOVE.**
4. If you have to cross the road to board the bus:
 - a. **DO NOT CROSS THE ROAD UNTIL THE BUS DRIVER SIGNALS YOU TO DO SO!**
 - b. Walk 10 or more steps ahead of the bus along the edge of the road until you can see the driver's face. If you can see the driver's eyes--the driver can see you!
 - c. When the bus and all traffic have come to a **COMPLETE STOP**, the bus driver will signal you to cross the road.
 - d. After the bus driver signals you to cross the road, check both ways to make sure all cars and trucks have stopped.
 - e. Walk quickly across the road and do not stop or turn back. If you drop something, ask the driver or another adult to help.
5. If you do not have to cross the road to board the bus:
 - a. Wait until the bus comes to a **COMPLETE STOP** and the door is open before stepping near the bus.
 - b. Stay away from the wheels and don't go near the front of the bus.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER—IF YOU CAN TOUCH THE SIDE OF THE BUS,
YOU ARE TOO CLOSE!**

WHILE ON THE SCHOOL BUS

1. Use the handrail when boarding the bus and enter one at a time.
2. Obey the bus driver.
3. Do not change seats unless given permission by the bus driver.
4. Stay seated until the bus comes to a **COMPLETE STOP** at the school or bus stop.
5. Do not open or close windows without permission from the bus driver.
6. Do not put any part of your body out the window or throw anything out the window.
7. Keep the aisle cleared.
8. Do not leave litter on the bus.
9. Do not throw anything while on the bus.
10. Keep hands off the other passengers and their belongings.
11. Do not shout, whistle, or use obscene language.
12. Do not eat, drink, or smoke.
13. When at railroad crossings there must be silence on the bus.
14. Do not play with emergency doors, fire extinguishers, or damage bus equipment.
15. Do not bring anything alive (guinea pigs, mice, bugs, etc.) on the bus.
16. **DO NOT BRING OBJECTS ON THE BUS THAT ARE TOO LARGE TO FIT COMFORTABLY IN YOUR LAP, SUCH AS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OR SCHOOL PROJECTS.**
17. **DO NOT BRING OBJECTS ON THE BUS THAT HAVE SHARP EDGES/POINTS.**

ARRIVING AT YOUR DESTINATION

1. Get off the bus **AT YOUR STOP** only, unless you have written permission from the school office to get off at a different stop.
2. Do not get out of your seat until the bus has come to a **COMPLETE STOP**.
3. Allow the students seated at the front of the bus to exit first.
4. Exit the bus one at a time.
5. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
6. If you have to cross the road . . .
 - a. Walk 10 or more steps ahead of the bus along the edge of the road until you can see the driver's face. If you can see the driver's eyes—the driver can see you!
 - b. **DO NOT CROSS THE ROAD UNTIL THE BUS DRIVER SIGNALS YOU TO DO SO!**
 - c. When all traffic has stopped, the bus driver will signal you to cross the road.
 - d. After the bus driver signals you to cross the road, check both ways to make sure that all traffic has stopped.
 - e. Walk quickly across the road and do not stop or turn back. If you drop something, ask the driver or another adult to help you.
7. If you do not have to cross the road . . .
 - a. Move back **TEN FEET** from the side of the bus.
 - b. If you drop something, do not pick it up. **WAIT UNTIL THE BUS LEAVES.**
 - c. Stay away from the wheels and do not go behind the bus.