

BUS REGULATIONS 2016-2017

This document defines the responsibilities of Parents, Bus Driver and Students, and will insure the efficient operation of the Vancouver Waldorf School Bus.

Parents/Guardians agree to the following:

1. To accept responsibility for the child beyond the drop-off point. **If you *DO NOT* want your child dropped off without parent/guardian or prearranged designated adult present, this must be explicitly indicated as such on the signed Emergency contact form and Bus Registration form.**
2. To pay bus fees in conjunction with and on the same terms as tuition payments. Fees to the GS are \$1000/year and include morning and afternoon service, 5 days or 10 trips per week. Fees for morning service to the HS are \$625/per year and from GS to HS are \$125/year. Service is available according to the schedule outlined above and is prorated accordingly for riders on a regular part-time schedule. Rates are subject to change without notice.
3. To notify the school of any changes, cancellations or additions to your child's bus schedule in advance (bus@vws.ca).
4. One way single student bus fare is \$4.00. One way single student bus fare between the GS and the HS is \$1.00. In families of three or more children, the third and subsequent children ride free.
5. To check with the Bus Driver and receive permission from the Bus Driver regarding extra people accompanying your child on the bus. Extra passengers will be charged per one way ride payable in cash to the Bus Driver when they board the bus. Extra passengers will be expected to abide by the rules of the bus.
6. To direct any concerns and problems to the Driver, Admissions Coordinator and/or Parent Liaison. If unresolved after consultation with the above, these concerns should be sent in written form to the College of Teachers.
7. To ensure that their children understand what is expected of them while on the bus and to assist the Bus Driver and/or Parent Liaison with suggestions and aid in changing their child's disruptive or unsafe behavior on the bus.
8. To agree to the following discipline procedures in the case of continuing inappropriate behavior.

Step One – Warning: The bus driver will inform the parents and class teacher in writing when the student has consistently ignored instructions concerning staying in seats or keeping voices at an appropriate level, or any other inappropriate behavior.

Step Two – Suspension: If this behavior continues the parents will be asked to find alternate transportation for the student for one week.

Step Three - Permanent Suspension: If behavior continues after the one week suspension, the parents will be asked to find permanent alternate transportation for the student.

*At the discretion of the Bus Driver, students can be suspended immediately for unacceptable behaviour.
e.g. lighting matches/lighters, throwing things out the window.

The Bus Driver agrees to the following:

1. To adhere to the rules and regulations of the Motor-Vehicle-Act when operating the bus; arrive on time at a scheduled stop; if early, wait until the arranged time before leaving; arrive at school at a regular time every day; maintain a constant routine so that people will know, if that routine is broken, to make inquiries.
2. To ensure the safety of the students is paramount.
3. To ensure that radio or recorded music with the exception of traffic reports is not played while the children are aboard the bus.
4. To strive to be firm, fair, friendly and consistent when enforcing rules on the bus.
5. To direct concerns about the children and their families first to the family concerned and/or to the Parent Liaison. If the concerns persist then the Bus Driver / Manager will inform the School.

The Vancouver Waldorf School agrees to the following:

1. To ensure that the bus is run in a responsible and safe manner.
2. That all safety procedures are in place and maintained.
3. To supervise the Bus Driver / Manager and oversee the operating of the bus as needed.
4. Set the bus fees in conjunction with the Bus Driver / Manager.
5. Negotiate all legal contracts.
6. To provide a school bus.
7. To interview all drivers or substitute drivers making sure that they are well qualified.
8. To decide on school closures because of weather and telephone the Bus Driver / Manager and the Parent Liaison to inform them of the closure. A message explaining that the school is closed due to weather will also be left on the School's answering machine.

Students agree to the following:

1. Remain seated at all times while on the bus with their upper bodies behind the seat in front of them.
2. Be gentle with their fellow passengers. No one will be slapped or hurt in any way and their belongings will not be taken or damaged.
3. Keep their voices at a conversational level. There can be no shouting in the bus or out the bus window.
4. Treat others in the bus with respect and tolerance. There will be no teasing, taunting, or bullying.
5. Keep all body parts or any other objects inside the bus while it is en route.
6. Not throw anything or spitting in the bus and out the window.
7. Not bring unsafe items such as flammable substances, matches, lighters or knives on the bus.
8. Keep the bus clean. Garbage will be thrown in the receptacle provided. If the bus is continually messy, food may be banned from the bus. Powdered or liquid food in open containers is not allowed.
9. Bring any concerns or problems to the Bus Driver and/or to their Parents.
10. Adhere to the Code of Conduct outlined in the Behaviour Guidance Policy, including no electronic devices.