



9 September 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to you about a number of school transport related matters.

Firstly, whilst the DFE guidance still states that face coverings on school transport are recommended rather than compulsory I would suggest that given the recent spike in infection rates that many more students should be wearing masks on the school buses than currently do so. Please could you discuss this with your son or daughter.

Secondly, some of the behaviour on the bus is below the standard I would expect from MECE students. I am working with the bus companies to ensure that we get CCTV footage of any student who is behaving poorly. I am particularly saddened that some of the older students choose to speak very badly to the younger students and particularly the Year 7s and this is just not acceptable. As you can imagine the school bus can be quite an intimidating experience for the younger students especially in Term 1 so this behaviour and lack of empathy for the Year 7s is very frustrating. I was clear with the students in my assembly last week that students can still be sanctioned for poor behaviour whilst travelling to and from school, as per DFE regulations, so whilst we will re-iterate this point with the students please can all parents and guardians also mention this to the students.

Lastly, the roadworks on Reades Lane are still carrying on and so we will continue walking down to the bus and meeting the students in the morning and in reverse in the afternoon. Whilst this is time consuming it is also good to walk and talk with the students. However, I do expect all students to be wearing our uniform correctly both in the walk down to the bus after school and when they get off the bus in the mornings.

Thank you for your support in these matters.

Yours

Andrew Hartley Headteacher