



School Bus Rules

In order to maintain a safe, orderly environment on the bus and at the bus stop, students are expected to observe the following School Bus Safety Rules:

1. FOLLOW THE DRIVER'S INSTRUCTIONS

School buses are just like classrooms: the adult is in charge. In the classroom, it's the teacher; on the bus, it's the driver. By state law, students are under the authority of the driver while on the school bus and when crossing the street.

2. STAY OUT OF THE DANGER ZONE

The area around a school bus is called the Danger Zone (see diagram below).

3. REMAIN SEATED, FACING FORWARD

School bus seats are specially designed to protect passengers. They can only be effective if riders always face the front and stay in their seats until the driver tells them to stand up and exit.

4. KEEP HANDS, FEET AND OBJECTS TO YOURSELF

On the bus, inappropriate behavior like fighting, pushing, horse-play or throwing something might distract the driver and cause an accident. Students must keep all parts of their body inside the bus where it's safe, and never throw anything out the window.

5. BE POLITE AND TALK QUIETLY

Everybody on the bus, including the driver, has the right to a safe, orderly environment, so students need to use good manners and talk quietly only to the riders in the same seat with them, using acceptable language and gestures.

6. NO EATING, DRINKING, SMOKING OR GUM

Eating on the bus may create a choking hazard; spilled food or drink may ruin clothing, cause someone to slip, or attract germs and insects. Buses are considered District property and are tobacco/nicotine-free.

In addition to the rules listed above, please be aware of the following:

- Students must not bring animals, glass, aerosol products, dangerous objects, flammable or controlled substances, laser pointers, radios, cassette players, or other personal electronic devices on the bus. Sharp objects such as pens and pencils should be carried in backpacks by elementary students or remain in pockets/purses of secondary students.
- Bulky items such as class projects or musical instruments may be carried only if the item does not displace any rider, does not obstruct the aisle or emergency exit, and does not obstruct the driver's vision in any direction. The District and the school bus contractor are not responsible for loss or damage of personal property.
- Vandalism of school buses may result in suspension or revocation of the student's riding privilege; parents may be held financially liable for the cost of repairing damage to school buses.

Student behavior may be monitored by video recording devices mounted in school buses. Video tapes may be used by school administrators in disciplinary proceedings.

