



## **The 10 basic tips on school bus safety: a parent's guide**

### **Getting to the school bus**

1. Remind your child to get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the school bus arrives. Children should never run after the school bus to try to catch it if they miss their ride.
2. Your child should stay on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk, tell your child to walk on the left side of the street facing traffic.
3. Remind your child that s/he should cross the street only at a corner. If there are no street corners because your family lives in a rural community, you should show your child the safest way to get to the bus stop. When crossing the road, your child must remember to look to the left, then to the right, and to the left once more before crossing.
4. When the school bus is approaching the bus stop, your child must take five steps back from the road.

### **Riding on the school bus**

5. Once inside the school bus, your child should take a seat as quickly as possible, put his/her belongings under the seat, and stay calm.
6. Remind your child to wait until the school bus comes to a complete stop before getting off.
7. Your child should use the handrail when getting off the school bus.

### **After riding on the school bus**

8. It is important for you to remind your child to stay away from the three danger zones - the front, sides and back of the bus - by staying at least three metres (10 feet) away from the school bus.
9. If students must cross the street, they should always cross in front of the school bus but only after establishing eye contact with the school bus driver.
10. If students drop something near or under the school bus, they should never attempt to retrieve it without the driver's permission.

# Sk'elep School of Excellence

## Bus Rules

1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and the students. The students must obey the driver at all times.
2. No eating or drinking on the bus.
3. BULLYING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.
4. Student/Parent/Guardians must treat the bus driver with respect at all times.
5. While the bus is in motion students must remain seated at all times until bus comes to a complete stop.
6. No loud talking or shouting; behaviour should be as in a classroom (no foul language or foul music on the bus).
7. Students/parents/guardians must be on time for the bus. This means waiting at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to pick up or drop off.
8. Never stand in the roadway while waiting for the bus.
9. Students must not throw waste paper or other rubbish on the floor of the bus or litter at the bus stop.
10. Students must not stick arms or head out of the bus window.
11. No pushing getting on or off the bus.
12. No climbing over seats or crawling under the seats on the bus.
13. No smoking, matches or lighters are permitted on the bus or bus stop.
14. Any damage to the bus must be reported immediately to the bus driver.
15. No electronics. *The following are examples: Cell phones, game systems, mp3 players, cameras or any hand held devices.* Bus driver will issue one verbal warning after that the driver will return the electronic device to the school for pick up by parent/guardian.
16. Students can only ride on their designated buses.
17. If parents would like their child to walk to and from the bus stop unsupervised by legal parent/guardian or responsible adult a letter must be written to Sk'elep School of Excellence. The letter must state they give their child permission to walk to and from the bus stop unsupervised by legal parent/guardian or responsible adult releasing the school from any harm or injury that may occur between the bus stop to destination.

Students/parents/guardians that violate these rules will be issued a STUDENT BUS BEHAVIOUR REPORT. If the student/parent/guardian continues to violate rules after being issued three warnings the result will be a temporary suspensions from riding the bus. A parent/guardian meeting will be required in order to continue riding the bus after a suspension. If the violations continue, the following suspension will be longer in duration, if not permanent.

***If there is no one at the bus stop to receive the student, the student will remain on the bus until the completion of the route and will be returned to the school. Parents will have to pick up the students or make arrangements to have their student picked up. If no staffs are available to receive the student, the local police department or Secwepmec Child and Family Services will be contacted.***

***Parents/ guardians must have alternate arrangements for their students should unplanned circumstances, such as traffic delays or running late occur, as these are not emergencies but are items rising in daily life for which parents/guardians are accountable and responsible.***