

A small proportion of East Riding children and young people rely on home to school and college transport, provided by the council, to get to their school or college. Some pupils may also need or choose to use public transport to get to their place of education.

East Riding schools, academies and Post-16 providers are working hard to ensure that all pupils and staff are safe once on-site.

As we move into Step 4 of the UK government's roadmap from Monday, 19 July 2021, the council remain committed to ensuring that children and young people stay as safe as possible on the journey to and from their place of learning to minimise the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transferring across schools, settings and households.

Providers of home to school and college transport, as well as public transport are continuing to work to a system of controls that focuses on a series of hygiene measures aimed at minimising risk and creating a safer environment for all pupils. These measures are mirrored across all schools and colleges in the East Riding.

The following advice and guidance is **strongly recommended** by East Riding Public Health and is modelled around the below systems of controls:

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms do not access transport
- 2) clean hands thoroughly, more often than usual
- 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach
- 4) continue enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- 5) maintain social distancing wherever possible
- 6) Children of 11 years of age and over are expected to wear appropriate face coverings on both public transport and dedicated home to school transport, to protect themselves and others

From Step 4, social distancing on transport is no longer legally required, however we **expect** that to help keep pupils, other passengers and transport staff safe the following precautions **should** be taken:

- avoid the busiest routes, as well as busy times like the rush hour
- wash or sanitise hands regularly
- children 11 years of age and over should use a face covering on public transport, on dedicated home to school transport and in enclosed areas of transport hubs
- avoid touching your face
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or the inside of your elbow when coughing or sneezing
- travel side-by-side or behind other people, rather than facing them, where seating arrangements allow
- touch as few surfaces as possible

- where possible minimise the time spent close to other people
- avoid loud talking, shouting or singing
- dispose of waste safely, including items such as used disposable face coverings.

Parents and carers should be aware of the following principles:

- Pupils should not travel if they are presenting with symptoms, a test should be arranged and the pupil must isolate for ten days from the onset of symptoms
- Parents and carers should, where possible, bring their children to school themselves. They could consider walking, cycling (where safe to do so) or driving
- Where a child or young person becomes symptomatic during the school day, the child's parent or carers should make arrangements for the child to be collected from school as soon as possible
- Children and young people, 11 years of age and over, travelling to school on public transport or dedicated home to school transport, who can manage the safe use of a face covering should wear one
- There is an expectation that the parents or carers of any child or young person accessing dedicated home to school transport will comply with the NHS Test and Trace procedures
- Council staff and drivers on transport and school staff will not be responsible for the safe use of face coverings
- Parents and carers should make sure their child knows how to put on and take off their face covering safely
- Parents and carers should ensure their children or young people know to listen to the driver, school staff and any passenger assistants in relation to boarding, seating and alighting vehicles
- Children should not ordinarily eat or drink on transport, this is particularly important at this time (to reduce hand-to-face contact)
- Parents and carers should ensure children wash their hands and face before leaving the house to use the transport
- Children and young people should adhere to any instructions provided by their school or displayed on vehicles
- Good hand hygiene should now be regular practice, schools will continue to encourage children and young people to wash their hands, remove their face covering and place it into a closed bin (disposable coverings) or in their bag (reusable face coverings) on arrival at school, they will also remind children to wash their hands and put their masks on before accessing transport at the end of the school day
- Parents and carers should ensure their children are adequately dressed for the journey as vehicles will be more ventilated than usual (windows and roof ventilation open to ensure air circulation)
- Parents and carers should ensure their children or young people understand that they should avoid loud talking, shouting or singing on transport (being quiet reduces the risk of droplets being carried to anyone else on the vehicle)
- Parents, carers, children and young people are encouraged to use the Buswise system to report any issues on transport.
- **There will be consequences for children and young people whose behaviour causes concern on transport and or deliberately break the rules associated with safe travel**

Parents and carers also need to acknowledge that in line with the '*East Riding of Yorkshire Council Outbreak Management Plan*' (March 2021) and the '*COVID – 19 Prevention and Outbreak Management Framework in the Humber*' (March 2021), Incident Management Teams can make recommendations to reintroduce and enforce additional safety controls to contain and reduce the transmission of the virus. This may include reinstating the use of 'bubbles' and face coverings for children and young people of 11 years and over.

<https://covid19.eastriding.gov.uk/outbreak-management/>

If you have any questions in relation to home to school or college transport you should contact Transportation Services:

Email: transport.requests@eastriding.gov.uk

Tel: (01482) 395444.

Anybody travelling on East Yorkshire Buses can find its travel advice and guidance at [East Yorkshire Buses - Getting back to travel safely](#)