

Setanta School Policy on Bus Safety

It is the policy of the Board of Management of Setanta School that all buses/coaches used to transport our pupils meets the highest standards.

Hire of Buses/Coaches:

It shall be a condition of hire that a company hired by the school shall have available if requested the following items;

- A written guarantee that seatbelts are fitted and in working order
- A copy of the licence of any driver intending to transport our pupils
- A copy of the insurance certificate for any bus/coach used for transporting our pupils
- A copy of the Dept. of Public Enterprise Safety Inspection Report for each bus/coach used for transporting our pupils

The Board of Management has also determined that, in the event of a bus/coach arriving without seatbelts as promised, that the trip will be postponed. We understand the upset this may cause our young pupils but feel that parents will respect our common desire to put safety above all considerations.

Use of buses:

The Board of Management notes that pupils occasionally travel on Dublin City bus services, which are not hired specifically by the school. Indeed we appreciate that Dublin City Bus occasionally provide such services free gratis. Notwithstanding the fact that seatbelts are not fitted to these buses, the BoM does not seek to restrict the use of such services. However the BoM has decided the following;

- They may only be used for trips within the city, where such buses would normally travel
- There must be only two pupils per seat and no pupils may sit in the front seats on the lower or upper decks

The behaviour of pupils while on a bus/coach must also meet the highest standard and we commend them and their teachers on the fact that this has not been a problem for us in the past. However we wish to make the following clear;

- That pupils must remain seated at all times
- That seatbelts must be worn at all times
- That pupils must obey the instructions of their teachers at all times
- That pupils may not eat or drink on a bus/coach unless given permission to do so by their teacher
- That pupils must enter and exit a bus/coach quietly and in an orderly manner
- That pupils must be mindful of other bus users
- That pupils who consistently disobey the above rules will not be permitted to travel with the school on trips