



Student Transportation Services of York Region
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Student Transportation Services JK-1 Recommended Best Transportation Practices

Schools

- Use of safe rider sticker system for all JK, SK and Gr 1 students.
- Use of a colour system and/or animal tag for buses in addition to the route number.
- Initiate seating plans which have the JK, SK and Grade 1 students at the front of the bus
- Pair up each JK, SK and Grade 1 student with a “bus buddy”; ideally the “bus buddy” would get on and off at the same stop location as the younger student.
- Have JK, SK and Grade 1 students as the last to disembark at the home stop; parents then approach the bus after the older students have departed and receive their younger student.
- Spend some time organizing the students in the gym according to their bus routes prior to departure on the first day.

Parent\Guardian

- Often parents want to drive their child to school on the first day. STS recommends that if you drive your child to school the first day, you also pick them up from school.
- Introduce yourself to other parents and students at the stop. This helps your student gain confidence and they come to recognize familiar faces at their bus stop location.
- As a reminder, JK, SK and Grade 1 students must be met at the bus stop by a responsible person.
- Keep your phone records and emergency contact numbers up to date with the school office. STS receives this information electronically through the school.

School Bus Contractors

- Contractors ensure the route is operated by a properly trained driver that understands and follows the Safe Rider Sticker Program.
- Contractors train their drivers to ensure students are met by a responsible person. If a caregiver is not at the bus stop, the bus driver will radio dispatch to contact the school for direction. The driver may be instructed to keep the student on the vehicle and drive by the stop again or return the student to the school upon completion of the route.

Student Transportation Services

- STS ensures that the First Time Rider Program, Safe Rider Sticker, Emergency Bus Evacuation and other safety information is shared with families in the School Bus Transportation Information package. The School Bus Information package is sent to all first time riders indicating when and where to find bussing and first time rider program information.
(www.schoolbuscity.com)