



## OBJECTIVES

The objective of this policy is to review the broader direct and indirect benefits and costs of transport investments and policies in schools. Policy and strategy concerns in transport are wide and cover safety, efficiency, economic development, infrastructure, environment, energy, land-use, equity and access.

## SAFETY AND EPIDEMIC PREVENTION GUIDELINES

- Wear a face mask and gloves at all times.
- Use the designated bus seats to keep a distance between you and others during your trips.
- If you need to sneeze or cough, use your elbow or a tissue.
- If you feel any COVID-19 Symptoms stay at home.
- Avoid touching your face, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

## SAFETY AND EPIDEMIC PREVENTION GUIDELINES WHILE USING THE BUS

- Leave space between you and others while waiting
- Don't crowd around the bus entrance and wait for your turn.
- Make sure there are empty chairs and leave distance between you and others
- After touching the surfaces of the knobs and handles, make sure to use an antiseptic to sanitize your hands
- Make sure you're always wearing a face mask and gloves

## SAFETY AND EPIDEMIC PREVENTION GUIDELINES WHILE USING THE BUS

- During the period of epidemics and diseases, only go out when necessary
- Plan your bus trip in advance and avoid peak times
- Follow the instructions of the station supervisors
- Leave distance between you and others while waiting for the bus
- Avoid talking to the driver at all times
- Be sure to use an antiseptic to sterilize your hands after touching a surface
- Don't crowd around the bus entrance or try and enter when it's full
- Always make sure there is a vacant seat and leave a distance between you and others
- For the safety of others, avoid using the Dubai Bus when you feel sick

## HYGIENE TIPS ON TRANSPORTS

- Maintain personal hygiene
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Use tissues when you cough or sneeze. If no tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve
- Clean and sanitize your hands before and after touching objects and surfaces.





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- Don't shake hands with others and don't contact them directly.
- Don't touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Don't come into close contact with people who look unwell
- Cover your hands when clicking the pedestrian signals or use a sanitizer after clicking the button
- Keep a distance between you and others on bus.
- Don't panic and enjoy your trip
- Follow the instructions and guidelines of the Health Authority for sickness and quarantine

## UNIFIED SIGNAGE ON SAFE PRACTICES AND ETIQUETTE TO COMBAT COVID-19

Government has announced a unified directory of safety and etiquette signage in public transport and other public spaces aimed at raising awareness about essential health and safety procedures to combat the outbreak of COVID-19.

The below signage directory is aligned with the highest global practices in indicative icons.

### Red indicates mandatory compliance to avoid violations and penalties

- **Keep Safe Distance:** Keep a safe distance of 1 meter in transport
- **No Sitting:** Sit in the designated seats
- **Wear Mask:** Wearing a face mask is mandatory

### Yellow cautions against certain conducts and practices:

- **Use Sanitizer:** Use of hand sanitizer is advised
- **Use Gloves:** Wearing gloves is advised at all times
- **Wash Your Hands:** Wash your hands often with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds

## TRANSPORTATION

Latest Updates: 14 January 2021

- A student showing symptoms is required to visit a SEHA Primary Healthcare Doctor to be assessed and may only return to school upon fulfilling the requirements outlined in the 'Guide for Private Schools Covid-19 Response Teams'.
- Following the Integrated Transport Centre (ITC) guidelines, buses may carry a maximum capacity of between 59% and 66%, depending on the type of vehicle.

## PRIVATE VEHICLES

- Students are strongly advised to arrive to school by individual means, whenever possible, in order to alleviate pressure on the bus system.
- Travel time should be increased to consider heavier traffic during this period.

Transport Guidelines



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- If students are carpooling, parents should keep track of daily carpooling arrangements for contact tracing purposes.

## **Bus Safety and Hygiene Measures**

- All students who are in Grade 1 and above are required to wear a mask.
- Temperature checks must be carried out for each child before pickup from home and school.
- Younger students must be accompanied by an adult guardian until seated on the bus. Their temperature will be taken inside the bus close to the entrance and the student will need to disembark if found to have an elevated body temperature.
- In case a student shows symptoms during the trip to school, they must be seated 2m away from other students and placed in isolation upon arrival at school to follow the incident management protocol. If symptoms occur during the trip back home, the student must be seated 2m away from other students and be dropped off first. The incident must be reported to the school response team for follow up.
- A student showing symptoms is required to visit a SEHA Primary Healthcare Doctor to be assessed and may only return to school upon fulfilling the requirements outlined in the 'Guide for Private Schools Covid-19 Response Teams'.
- All school buses must be equipped with hand sanitizer at their entrance doors. Bus monitors should be provided with sanitizing wipes and an appropriate waste bin.
- No food or drink (other than water) can be consumed on the bus.
- Students must sanitize their hands when getting on the bus, and once before dismounting.
- Students must maintain a distance of 1.5m from each other while boarding and dismounting the bus.
- Only one bus at a time may allow students to descend and enter the school premises. Students should wait inside their bus until all students have disembarked from the previous bus.
- Areas around the school entrance should be demarcated for bus drop-off organization (drop-off area vs. bus waiting area).
- Descending from the bus should be done in an orderly fashion, row by row, and respecting social distancing.
- Each bus is required to have at least one bus supervisor to check students' temperatures, dispense hand sanitizer, tend to students who require assistance, and usher them when disembarking.
- Students should be assigned seating, with the same seating assignments maintained daily.
- The interior of the bus must be cleaned and disinfected after each one-way trip.





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- Bus drivers and supervisors shall follow all health and safety standards, including having their temperatures measured and screening for symptoms on a daily basis.

## SPACE AND CAPACITY MANAGEMENT

- Following the Integrated Transport Centre (ITC) guidelines, buses may carry a maximum capacity of between 59% and 66%, depending on the type of vehicle.
- Siblings may be seated together as long as they maintain social distancing from other groups of siblings/other students.
- All seats must be marked with tape/paint/stickers to show students where to sit.
- Where Students of Determination require additional support from an adult, a clear and comprehensive Risk Assessment must be conducted and travel plan developed.
- Where Students of Determination travel on school buses and also use supplementary aids to ensure their safety, such as “car seats,” specific harnesses, etc., these should be disinfected in accordance with the protocols outlined.

## SCHEDULING AND SHIFTS

- Schools shall review and update their transportation plans considering their fleet, number of students using the transportation facility, and the social distancing requirements.
- Schools will need to stagger student arrival and departure times based on arrival/entry by bus or by other means to avoid crossover between the two groups. To allow working parents’ maximum time between drop-off and pick up, it is advised to schedule private drop-off before bus drop-off at the start of the day, but bus pick-up before private pick-up at the end of the day.
- Schools shall collect daily bus passenger logs to enable contact tracing in case a student tests positive for COVID-19.

## PROVISION OF BUS SERVICE

Schools are strongly advised to provide bus service to accommodate parents who do not have alternative arrangements. The provision or cancellation of bus service remains at the discretion of the school upon assessment of demand.

