



Bus Policy

Elanora State High School endorses *the Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses July 2014*. Students have the right when travelling on the bus to:

- Travel safely: free from harm and have their safety and wellbeing protected
- To be respected: actively listened to; provided with accurate information; consulted; treated fairly; treated with courtesy

A student's role with regards to the code is to be a safe and responsible passenger. Students have to take responsibility by:

- Acting safely and responsibly
- Following driver instructions, bus rules and the bus safety code
- Accepting the consequences of bus misconduct
- Respecting themselves and others including their own and others' property
- Being responsible for their own behaviour

The role of parents with regards to the code is to actively support bus safety with their school aged children. A parent's responsibility with regards to this code is to:

- Teach their children about bus safety rules, the Code and consequences for misconduct
- Demonstrate appropriate bus travel behaviours to children
- Communicate respectfully and cooperate with the driver, operator, school and transport staff in managing misconduct
- Ensure the safe travel of their children to and from the bus service
- Be available for discussions about the behaviour of their children

Schools have a responsibility to:

- Collaborate with stakeholders and communicate respectfully in implementing the Code
- Support bus operators in the application of the Code's procedures and processes
- Reinforce safe bus travel and the Code's messages in school-based processes
- Facilitate effective communication between bus operators and students/parents/carers.

Categories of misconduct of the Code of Conduct for School Bus Travel are:

- Category 1 – Irresponsible behaviour
- Category 2 – Unsafe behaviour
- Category 3 – Dangerous/destructive behaviour
- Category 4 – Life threatening behaviour

When determining consequences for breaches of the code there will be consideration of:

- The nature of the incident
- The threat to the safety of passengers on the bus
- The extent to which the breach distracted the driver
- The age of the student
- Whether the student has any existing medical condition
- The student's account of the incident
- Whether the breach was a first or one of a series of repeated incidents about which the students has been previously cautioned.

Consequences from the bus company range from a written caution (Category 1) to a period of refusal of bus travel anywhere between one day to permanent refusal.

Consequences of violating the *Elanora SHS School Bus Policy* from Elanora SHS will be in accordance with Elanora SHS *Responsible Behaviour Plan For Students*, that is, whether the behaviour is a minor, moderate or major violation of the right to be safe.

The full Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses document can be found at <https://translink.com.au/sites/default/files/assets/resources/travel-with-us/school-travel/code-of-conduct-drivers-factsheet.pdf> if required.