



Transport Arrangements for G.M.E. Pupils in the City of Edinburgh

All primary pupils who live more than two miles (secondary pupils: three miles) walking distance from Edinburgh's Gaelic Medium provisions are presently entitled to free transport. This may be in the form of private coach, public bus pass or taxi. This provision is primarily funded through the Scottish Government Specific Grant for Gaelic Education. The Local Authority pays the remaining costs. The City of Edinburgh Passenger Operations team manages this provision for pupils in Edinburgh.

Families apply for places in the spring term, and places are allocated for the following August. Occasionally, families may be awarded 'grace and favour' places. These are usually allocated a month or so into the new session and may be withdrawn at any time.

How it operates:

- eligible families are informed by Passenger Operations of pick-up points and times
- school staff manage the arrival and departure of pupils
- Passenger Operations issues tenders to bus companies, organises routes and drop offs, informs parents and deals with any operational issues

Responsibilities of parents:

- being on time to meet bus in the morning and at end of the day
- keeping the driver informed of any changes to arrangements, for example if a child is unwell (we recommend that you swap phone numbers with your driver)
- keeping the school informed, by weekly ParentMail form, of any changes to usual end-of-day arrangements

Responsibilities of school staff:

- seeing pupils on and off transport at school safely
- maintaining lists of end-of-day arrangements
- contacting Passenger Operations if any buses do not arrive at the end of the day
- dealing with any minor behaviour issues

Responsibilities of pupils:

- putting on and keeping on seatbelts until transport reaches destination and comes to a stop
- staying seated throughout the journey
- maintaining good standards of behaviour while in transit

Responsibilities of drivers:

- picking up and dropping off children at agreed times
- dropping pupils off at school no earlier than 8.45am, ensuring that a member of staff is there to escort pupils into school
- wearing photo i.d. as issued by Passenger Operations at all times

Complaints: Complaints about behaviour of pupils should, in the first instance, be directed to school
Complaints about transport should be directed to Passenger Operations on 0131 469 2950

Please note: Occasionally a coach may be replaced by taxi(s) provided by City Cabs or Central Taxis.
Parents are not permitted to travel on buses or taxis.