



7 October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

It is with deep regret that we are sharing recent incidents of very poor behaviour on the public bus which a number of our students use to travel to and from school.

Sadly, it has been brought to our attention by members of the public, parents/carers and our students that a number of students have recently conducted themselves on the bus in a manner that does not reflect well upon them or their school. We are grateful to those students who have distanced themselves from this behaviour and we recognise that this message does not apply to all our students who use the X4 service. Thank you to those students who uphold our school values diligently each day.

It is important all parents/carers are made aware of the range of poor behaviour reported which ranges from antisocial and unpleasant behaviour i.e. shouting, screaming, swearing to acts of physical violence against others, including members of the public. **All of this behaviour is completely unacceptable.** I strongly encourage you to have a conversation with your child/ren so you can better understand their journey to and from school, along with how your child/ren is responding as an individual during the journey, and if they are reporting anything of concern afterwards. From our investigations, it is clear students are not helping each other as a group and poor behaviour by some is influencing others which is disappointing.

For most St Katherine's students, the journey to and from school by bus forms a significant part of their school day and during these times they are representatives of the school. Any student who demonstrates poor behaviour or attitude can expect this to be addressed in the same way as if it had taken place on the school site. Our expectations on all transport are:

- 1. Wait and queue calmly**
- 2. Show respect and courtesy to others**
- 3. Remain seated throughout the journey**
- 4. Act responsibly at all times**
- 5. Follow all instructions from First Bus/Turners employees and School Bus Monitors**
- 6. Report any poor behaviour through our TELL SOMEONE FORM on our website, tell a sixth form student or email [school@skdrive.org](mailto:school@skdrive.org)**

We are working with First Bus closely and will look to secure access to CCTV footage should this be deemed necessary. Where individual students are identified as not meeting our expectations, we will hold them responsible for their actions and take action in line with our behaviour and exclusion policy. Our approach is outlined below:

- Stage 1 - A verbal warning and phone call home confirming the nature of the unacceptable behaviour. Incident recorded on student record.
- Stage 2 - A meeting and formal written warning outlining the nature of the unacceptable behaviour and any temporary adjustments agreed for your child getting to and from school.
- Stage 3 - A meeting to confirm further sanctions in line with our behaviour and exclusion policy.

Any serious incident may result in a student being dealt with immediately under Stage 3.

Where students observe poor behaviour in others, we encourage them to act responsibly, discourage it, distance themselves from it and to report it. Incidents can be reported to any sixth form student on the bus or a student or parent/carer can anonymously submit any concern using our 'Tell Someone' form on the homepage of our school website.

**Once you have discussed this letter with your child/ren, including our expectations on public transport, please complete [this form](#) to confirm all our expectations have been fully understood.**

Should you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [school@skdrive.org](mailto:school@skdrive.org).

Thank you for your cooperation and support to ensure all students can travel safely on the public bus to and from school each day.

Yours sincerely



Justin Humphreys  
Headteacher