YOUNG PEOPLE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN BEHAVIOUR. ANY INCIDENT MAY BE RECORDED AND, IF NECESSARY, SANCTIONS TAKEN. ANY CASES OF SERIOUS MISBEHAVIOUR WILL BE REPORTED TO THE TRANSPORT BEHAVIOUR OFFICERS, THE POST-16 ESTABLISHMENT AND IF NECESSARY THE POLICE. PHYSICAL AND VERBAL ABUSE ARE UNACCEPTABLE.

SANCTIONS

The provision of Post-16 transport can and will be withdrawn for specified periods, as a sanction against students for poor behaviour.

In some instances there will be an immediate ban, for example, for any student carrying a blade, lighter/matches or an electronic cigarette.

The length of time for any ban will be determined by the Post-16 establishment and our Transport Behaviour Officers.

Should any parents act inappropriately towards other children, drivers or passenger assistance whilst on home to school transport, travel privileges will be withdrawn for a specified period.

Parents are expected to pay in full for any damage caused by your child to the vehicle or to property as a result of their poor behaviour on home to school transport.

Where home to school transport is withdrawn you will be fully responsible for ensuring that your child attends school. This includes the responsibility for arranging and paying for travel.

Useful Contact Names and Telephone Numbers

Transport Behaviour Officers, County Hall – please email all information to schooltransportteam@durham.gov.uk (03000 265896)

Integrated Passenger Transport Team County Hall
(03000 264444 - Option 2)

Replacement Pass (at a cost of £5.00)
(03000 264444 – Option 4)

Concessionary Pass
(03000 264444 – Option 3) www.durham.gov.uk/concessionaryseats

Emergency / Adverse Weather Conditions / School Closures
http://www.durham.gov.uk/schoolclosures
This leaflet sets out the rights and responsibilities of parents/carers and the sanctions that could be taken should a student not behave in a responsible manner.

The behaviour of the vast majority of students whilst travelling is good; however, the conduct of a small percentage of students gives cause for concern. This is unacceptable, and in agreeing and promoting a policy on student’s behaviour on Post-16 transport we aim to raise the standards of behaviour.

Parents have a key role to play and you are responsible for the conduct of your children.

PARENT/CARER’S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- That your child reads and understands the information on this leaflet;
- To ensure your child behaves safely and appropriately on Post-16 transport;
- To ensure your child is not in possession of, supplying or misusing illicit substances, tobacco, alcohol, non-prescribed medication, volatile substances or carrying a blade, lighter/matches or an electronic cigarette;
- To pay for any damage caused by your child to any vehicle or property as a result of his/her poor behaviour on Post-16 transport;
- To behave respectfully towards drivers and passenger assistants who are providing transport on our behalf. Please make sure your behaviour is appropriate so that it sets an example for students travelling on the contract;
- To cooperate with and support the Post-16 establishment, operator, driver, passenger assistant and our Transport Behaviour Officers if your child is having problems on home to school transport;
- To make alternative home to school transport arrangements for your child should their travel be removed as a direct result of their conduct on home to school transport.
- To provide emergency contact information to the Sustainable Transport Team or transport operator, for use when it may be necessary to amend travel arrangements at short notice e.g. during adverse weather conditions;
- To let us know, in writing, if you change address at schooltransportteam@durham.gov.uk;
- Access to the “Behaviour on Home to School Transport Policy” (which is available at www.durham.gov.uk/schooltransport);
- To complain or report behaviour problems on home to school transport to the school or our Transport Behaviour Officers via email on schooltransportteam@durham.gov.uk.

STUDENT’S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of traffic (keep on footpath);
- Be at the correct pick up point;
- Board the bus/taxi in an orderly manner;
- Stay seated until the bus/taxi stops;
- Use the seat belt provided;
- Be polite to other bus/taxi users;
- Do as the driver/escort tells you;
- Ensure all personal belongings are carried off the bus/taxi;
- Report any concerns to drivers.

DON’T

- Carry a blade;
- Smoke or bring a lighter/matches onto the bus;
- Use an electronic cigarette;
- Carry or take drugs;
- Damage the vehicle;
- Be physically violent to the driver or passenger assistant or fellow passengers;
- Throw items around the bus/taxi or out of windows;
- Cross in front of or behind the bus/taxi;
- Bully;
- Use bad language;
- Open the emergency door or emergency window;
- Shout at passers-by;
- Disturb or distract the driver;
- Touch the controls of the vehicle;
- Act in a silly or dangerous manner.

The operator has a statutory duty to ensure they are providing a safe journey and they will take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the passengers, driver and other vehicles on the road.

If you do not behave in a responsible manner the Council’s Transport Behaviour Officers will implement sanctions to ensure that everyone can travel safely and trouble free.