



Our goal is to provide all West Islip students with the safest transportation possible. Our bus safety rules must be strictly enforced in order to keep our students safe. Transportation is a privilege that can be revoked if the behavior of a student impairs the safety of students and transportation professionals.

School buses are "Bully Free Zones". In the event your child witnesses or is subjected to bullying, harassment or any other behavior that makes them feel uncomfortable, bring it to the attention of your child's bus driver and school administrator at once.

Remind your child to observe the following rules:

- Be ready and waiting five minutes prior to your pick-up time (never allow a student to chase a missed bus).
- Do not wait in the street for the bus and do not damage or destroy private property.
- Students are never to walk along the side of the bus when either approaching or leaving it. The State Education Department stresses that established visual contact between driver and crossing students is critical to safety.
- Students crossing in front of the bus need to maintain eye contact with the driver and wait until the driver signals them before crossing the street.
- Once on the bus, students are to seat themselves quickly and remain seated until the bus arrives at its destination.
- No part of a student's body or belongings is ever to be extended out the bus window.
- Objects may not be thrown on, from or at the bus.
- The aisles should remain clear of any backpacks or other belongings.
- The consumption of food or beverages, as well as smoking/vaping is strictly prohibited.
- All students on a school bus are under the authority of its driver and are required to follow the driver's instructions.
- Be respectful to the driver, driver aides and fellow students at all times.
- Remain seated at all times, communicate quietly.
- Students are to use only their regular bus and established stop location unless they have a written request by a parent/guardian and the permission of the school principal to do otherwise. Students assigned to a bus who plan to walk or ride a bike must also have a written request by a parent/guardian.
- If an accident occurs, students should not leave the site of the accident unless directed by the bus driver or an authorized school personnel.

Disciplinary action will be taken if fighting, profanity, vandalism or items being thrown from bus windows or on the bus are reported. Student conduct reports are submitted to your child's assigned school administrator. School administrators will oversee student conduct on our school buses. Recurring conduct reports could result in school suspension, transportation suspension or revoked transportation privileges. In the event of a transportation suspension, it will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to see that the child is in attendance at school.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our students and buses safe. We look forward to providing your children with a safe and efficient bus ride to and from school every day.