

Thursday 27th August 2020

Dear parents/carers,

School transport update

Since lockdown at the end of March, transport across Greater Manchester has changed significantly, and it won't be back to normal when the new school term begins.

It's important that you plan ahead for how your child will get to and from school and check the latest travel advice. You should also apply now for any tickets or passes you may need.

Please consider whether your child can walk or cycle to school – it can be a safe and healthy way for pupils to make shorter trips. New cycling and walking routes have been put in place across the region as part of the #SafeStreetsSaveLives project to make it safer and easier than ever to get about on foot or by bike. For the latest information on these improvements, visit tfgm.com/safestreets.

If you have to drive your child to school and/or pick them up, please switch off your engine when waiting outside to reduce air pollution and consider parking further away and walking the last part of your journey.

If you and your child need to use public transport to travel to school, you should be aware that space may be limited on many services and timetables may have changed. TfGM's Yellow School Bus services will be running without the usual pass system in place, meaning they will operate as regular school buses so any schoolchild can use them.

You should also follow safe travel guidance:

- Wear a face covering on-board and in stations and interchanges, unless you're under 11 or are exempt for another reason
- Keep your distance from other passengers where possible
- Clean your hands regularly
- Use contactless payment or exact change only

TfGM has created a Back to School hub at tfgm.com/schools where parents and pupils can find the latest information on timetables, tickets, changes to Yellow School Bus services and further information on cycling and walking.

Thank you

Take care

Rachael Bentham