

Bus Travel Policy



All Dominic College students have a responsibility to behave in a sensible and safe manner at all times during bus travel. The safety of students, the driver, pedestrians and other road users is paramount.

The Dominic College Bus Travel Policy covers students travelling on all buses, both public and private. This includes buses travelling to and from school, excursions, camps, sporting events or any other school occasions.

The Dominic College Bus Travel Policy is in accordance with the Dominic College Student Code of Behaviour; the Metro Buses Student Code of Behaviour; and the Tasmanian Bus Association regulations.

Student behaviour is primarily the responsibility of parents or guardians. Please discuss appropriate behaviour with your children to ensure they fully understand their responsibilities when travelling on the bus.

The Bus Travel Policy is expressed in the accompanying Bus Travel Student Code of Behaviour which should be read in conjunction with this policy statement.

Bus Travel Student Code of Behaviour
EXPECTATIONS OF BEHAVIOUR ON BUSES

As a bus passenger, Dominic College students WILL:	As a bus passenger, Dominic College students WILL NOT:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Behave safely at all times ✓ Follow all instructions from the driver ✓ Board and leave the bus in an orderly manner ✓ Show their pass, ticket or school ID when requested ✓ Try to have the correct change when purchasing a ticket ✓ Sit properly on the seat if one is available and wear a seat-belt if fitted ✓ Occupy a particular seat, if directed by the driver ✓ Remain in the designated area if standing ✓ Place bags under the seat or in assigned storage areas ✓ Speak quietly and not create unnecessary noise ✓ Respect bus property and the property of others by not marking or damaging it ✓ Watch for their bus stop and ring the bell once within a reasonable distance from the stop ✓ Cross the road after the bus has moved off and it is safe to do so ✓ Wait for the bus in an orderly manner and stand well back from the bus until it stops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Stand on or place feet on the seats ✗ Create unnecessary noise ✗ Move about while the bus is in motion ✗ Obstruct the aisle, doors or emergency exits ✗ Consume food or drink, or play music without the permission of the driver ✗ Distract the driver from his/her duties ✗ Fight, spit or use offensive language ✗ Behave in a manner which places the safety of themselves or others in danger ✗ Damage or interfere with the property of another passenger or the bus company ✗ Throw any object either inside or outside the bus ✗ Allow any part of the body to protrude out of the bus windows ✗ Bully another student in any form ✗ Physically or verbally harass other passengers or the driver ✗ Carry illegal, oversize or dangerous objects ✗ Smoke or use matches/lighters ✗ Cross the road in front of the bus

In the case of an emergency or bus breakdown, follow the bus driver's instructions. Evacuate the bus in an orderly manner. Wait in the area indicated by the driver. Do not leave the area until the driver gives permission to do so.

CONSEQUENCES FOR BREAKING THE BUS TRAVEL CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

If a student does not follow the Code, disciplinary action will be taken. This can range from a cautionary warning to total suspension from bus travel. Very serious offences may result in suspension or expulsion from school.

If a student is suspended from bus travel, it is the parent's responsibility to arrange alternative travel for that period.

Consequences for breaching the Code of Behaviour fall into three categories, shown below.

Level	Examples of Behaviour	Consequence
Nuisance Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Eating or drinking whilst on bus ✗ Standing on or putting feet on seat ✗ Failing to show ticket or pass when required ✗ Pressing the button continually 	“Three strikes and you’re out.” Three warnings result in a suspension from bus travel for up to two weeks.
Unsafe Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Swinging on the handrails ✗ Continually moving around the vehicle ✗ Preventing others from disembarking 	More serious breaches may result in an immediate suspension from bus travel for up to four weeks.
Highly Dangerous and/or Destructive Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Verbally threatening the driver or other passengers ✗ Physically assaulting the driver or other passengers ✗ Allowing part of the body to protrude from the vehicle ✗ Harassing or bullying other passengers ✗ Disobeying instructions given by a bus company staff member ✗ Throwing objects in or outside the bus ✗ Damaging property of the bus company or other passenger 	For very serious offences the student will be issued with an automatic suspension from travelling on the bus. This suspension may be for a specified period or an indefinite suspension. Particular behaviours may result in suspension/exclusion from Dominic College.

NOTE: If a student has to be removed from the bus before it departs, parents or guardians will be contacted and they will need to make other transport arrangements.