

Safe Travel Back to School (primary)

School transport considerations ahead of the new term

September is nearly upon us and with it comes an opportunity to try new things – including different ways to do the school run!

With new cycling and walking routes popping up across Greater Manchester, it is safer and easier than ever to get about on foot or by bike – so why not consider if your child can walk, cycle or scoot to school? This can be a great, healthy way to start your day – particularly for shorter trips.

Public transport is safe for those who want to use it, with transport operators implementing enhanced cleaning regimes on board services and hand sanitiser dispensers still installed at stations and interchanges. If you plan to travel by public transport, please be sure to check routes and timetables before you set off.

You can continue play your part in keeping yourself and others safe when using public transport or taxis and private hire vehicles, by following safe travel guidance. This includes:

- Wearing a face covering – they are still required on Metrolink services and inside stations and interchanges, unless you're under 11 or are exempt for another reason. The use of face coverings is also expected on bus, rail and taxi services
- Keeping windows open to maintain fresh air flow and ventilation
- Cleaning your hands frequently by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitiser
- Using contactless payment if possible
- Being kind and consider fellow passengers when travelling

If you do need to drive your child to or from school, please switch off your engine when waiting outside to reduce air pollution and, if possible, try parking further away and walking the last part of the journey.

However you chose to travel, it's important to plan ahead and check the latest travel advice. Support and information about this can be found on TfGM's Schools Hub.

