

## **Helping students, parents/carers and staff plan safe, sustainable journeys to and from school this spring**

As all children and young people will now return to their classrooms for the spring term, as part of the Government's roadmap for leaving lockdown, we remain committed to doing our part to help them travel to school and college safely on our network.

### **School services**

From 8 March, we are planning to run bus services in a similar way to how they did during the autumn term. This means:

- ✓ Extra services on some routes, with some adjustments to services that ran last year to reflect demand
- ✓ Up to half of buses on certain higher-frequency routes signed as 'school services' (generally between 07:30 and 09:00 and 14:30 and 16:30)
- ✓ A full service on our existing schoolday-only routes (routes generally numbered 600-699)

These arrangements are planned to be in place until at least the end of the current term. We will confirm arrangements for after Easter in due course.

Schoolchildren travelling without adults should travel on the school services where possible, to help provide space for other customers on regular services. Customers who are not schoolchildren but who need to travel at school travel times (including school staff) are strongly encouraged to use regular services.

The full details of planned additional services and routes operating with buses signed as a 'school service' will be available shortly at: <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/buses/bus-changes>.

We are continually reviewing how our network is operating to ensure our approach is working and meeting demand as best as possible. Please check our [dedicated webpage](#) regularly for the latest information on school travel.

### **Safe travel across the public transport network**

We are continuing to take a range of measures to ensure that the public transport network is clean and safe – including our enhanced cleaning regime. We ask everyone travelling to continue following our [safer travel guidance](#) to protect themselves and others. It is compulsory for everyone aged 11 and over to wear a face covering over their nose and mouth throughout any public transport journey unless exempt. Bus windows should remain open to ensure a good supply of fresh air, even in cold weather.

If a child aged 11 to 17 isn't wearing a face covering without an exemption or reasonable explanation, our officers may arrange for a warning letter to be sent to their parent or guardian. Further non-compliance could lead to the suspension of their concessionary travel.

### **How schools can help**

As the Capital begins to reopen, we want everyone needing to use public transport to travel safely, reliably and securely. We'd therefore like schools and colleges to:

- ✓ Consider staggering the start and finish times of schools and colleges to help us manage demand at the busiest times

- ✓ Encourage pupils to walk, cycle or scoot wherever possible. Use our STARS **Safer Journey Planner**, which will help to plan journeys and provides useful advice on active journeys. Visit <https://stars.tfl.gov.uk/> to access free resources for home learning and in-school activities on sustainable travel as well as guidance on School Streets
- ✓ Promote the use of London's extensive [walking and cycling network](#), which is being delivered in partnership with London boroughs, among students, parents/ carers and staff as part of their journeys to school
- ✓ Encourage anyone travelling to your school to check their journey on our **Journey Planner** or the TfL Go app

**We would be grateful if you could share this information with the schools and colleges in your borough via your communications**



**All you need to know about transport locally**

Visit [tfl.gov.uk/boroughs-and-communities](https://tfl.gov.uk/boroughs-and-communities) to find out what is happening in your area