



Hanley Castle High School

and Sixth Form Centre

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Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Cooke

27 August 2020

Dear parents,

Bus Travel from September 2020

This letter is in addition to Mrs Cooke's letter of 20th August. It confirms the arrangements for students travelling on designated school transport and public buses from the start of term. Worcester County Council will be writing to parents of students using designated school transport in due course, but I wanted to clarify additional safety measures for Hanley Castle students. These will involve significant changes, but we hope they will quickly become second nature.

Designated school buses (beginning with UP, e.g. UP01)

Government advice is currently to maintain year group bubbles on school transport. Worcestershire County Council (WCC) have therefore developed a system of colour coded zones for each route, identified by coloured tape on seats:

Year 7	GREY
Year 8	RED
Year 9	BLUE
Year 10	GREEN
Year 11	ORANGE
Year 12	PURPLE
Year 13	YELLOW

Initially we are happy for students to choose their own seat within their year group zone, but we reserve the right to impose a seating plan if required. Please ensure that your son(s)/daughter(s) know their colour zone.

However, as a school we question the feasibility of distancing different bubbles of students in the enclosed environment of a bus. Students will be sitting close to each other during the journey and will mix with students from other year group bubbles when getting on or off the bus at their stop. **For the safety of themselves and other students we therefore strongly recommend that all students wear their face mask throughout their journey, and sanitise their hands as they get on and off the bus.** This is in line with guidance for public transport.

No routes have changed since last year, and the timetables can be found on the [WCC website](#).

If parents have any queries about designated school travel, it is important they contact the WCC hub on 01905 765 765.



First buses (public bus routes 365, 363, 333)

These bus routes were suspended whilst the school was not open to all students, and the timetables for these routes were removed from the First website. Worcestershire County Council has asked First to publish their timetables as soon as possible.

A crude map of the routes can be found [here](#).

When timetables are published they will be accessible from the [First Worcestershire website](#).

All passengers must wear face coverings on public transport. We strongly advise all students to sanitise their hands before getting on to the bus and as soon as they have got off the bus.

Safety guidance from the First bus website:



We look forward to welcoming Year 7 and Year 12 for their induction on Thursday 3rd September, and to welcoming students from all other years on Friday 4th September.

Further information regarding safety measures for the start of term have been emailed to parents, and can also be found via the link on the front page of our [school website](#).

With very best wishes,

Rob Johnston
Deputy Headteacher

