

[East Lothian Council Parental Information Home to School Transport](#)

Introduction

The guidance is designed to support a safe return to school for all children and young people taking full account of progress made in suppressing COVID-19 in Scotland, the scientific advice received and Scottish Government/Transport Scotland guidance.

East Lothian Council will continue to deliver Home to School transport as per the current Education Policy rule of 2 mile for all pupils attending their catchment school. The Transport Plan will remain as pre COVID-19 lockdown with limited changes as per the scientific advice received and national advice.

Passenger responsibilities

Whether you travel on dedicated school transport or on a public service, we expect all families to help us keep all passengers, drivers and escorts safe.

- All passengers should wear face coverings regardless of whether they are travelling on dedicated school transport or on a public service. Families should provide their child or young person with a covering. Information on exemptions and an exemption card is available here: <https://disabilityequality.scot/face-covering/>
- All passengers should wash their hands or use hand sanitiser before getting on the bus. Families should provide their child or young person with hand sanitiser for this purpose.
- All passengers must have a valid pass for travel.

Failing to comply with these guidelines could mean that a pupil is not allowed to travel.

We are grateful for your support keeping everyone who travels safe.

Dedicated School Transport

Dedicated school transport should be treated as an extension of the school estate. Enhanced cleaning of dedicated school transport vehicles will be important, especially where vehicles are used for other purposes before and after transporting children to and from school. Personal hand and respiratory hygiene is important, including sanitisation of hands prior to boarding. East Lothian Council has created a protocol for operators of all Home to School transport routes stating what is required and this information will be displayed on the council website.

Distancing between children and young people on dedicated school transport is not required, although where possible some practical approaches to grouping and distancing are provided. Adults should conform with the requirements for public transport (1m distancing). Pupils will fill the bus rear to front as per their boarding.

Face coverings are required on **all** school transport to provide consistent message across the transport and stop any confusion. All pupils should wear a face covering no matter what type of transport they travel on; failing to wear a face covering could mean the pupil is refused transport. The exemption rules for face coverings are the same as public transport and an exemption card can be found at <https://disabilityequality.scot/face-covering/>

East Lothian has taken on board the advice to segregate pupils travelling to different schools who normally travel together and secondary pupils from primary. Additional buses have been provided. The impact of this is pupils travelling on the following routes will have separate transport even if from the same family:

Route	School
106	Haddington Primary
	St Mary's RC Primary
106 (1)	Knox Academy
107	Haddington Primary
	St Mary's RC Primary
107(1)	Knox Academy
121	Yester Primary
121 (1)	Knox Academy
123	Gaelic Primary School
123 (1)	Gaelic Primary School
161	North Berwick High
161 (1)	Law Primary
162	North Berwick High
162(1)	Law Primary
171	James Gillespie's High School
171 (1)	James Gillespie's High School

The availability of spare seating will depend on parental choice about whether to use home to school transport. We will gather parents' views and preferences and review spare seating in October and every three months thereafter.

Public Transport

The creation of "dedicated zones/carriages" on certain limited types of public transport is permitted, with rules on distancing the same as for dedicated school transport. East Lothian Council and operators have adopted this approach where capacity could be achieved on services that are classified as public transport but which primarily carry children and young people to school, with limited numbers of adult passengers. Face coverings in dedicated zones **must be worn** in dedicated zones on all other forms of public transport.

Service	School	Pickups	Contractor	Remarks
111	Musselburgh Grammar	Whitecraig	Prentice Coaches	S1 – S3

126	North Berwick High School	Aberlady & Luffness mains	East Coast Buses	
125	North Berwick High School	Gullane	East Coast Buses	
124	North Berwick High School	Gullane	East Coast Buses	Outside of Gullane 30 mph Limit
127	North Berwick High School	Ballencrief, Drem Fenton Barns, West Fenton, Dirleton	East Coast Buses	
121	North Berwick High School	Athelstaneford, Drem, Fenton Barns & Kingtson	Eve Coaches	
128	Preston Lodge High School	Longniddry	East Coast Buses	S1 - S4 Longniddry pupils only
118	Preston Lodge High School	Longniddry	Prentice Coaches	S5 -S6 Longniddry pupils only
110/111	Preston Lodge High School	Port Seton	Prentice Coaches	S6 Port Seton Pupils only
110	Ross High	Elphinstone	Prentice Coaches	
104	Ross High	Macmerry	East Coast Buses	S1 -S4
108	Ross High	Macmerry	Prentice Coaches	S5 & 6

The exception to the normal delivery of school transport to school by public bus service due to capacity concerns during the COVID-19-19 period will be the creation of dedicated school transport for the following areas:

Service	School	Pickups	Contractor	Remarks
120	Dunbar Grammar	East Linton	Eve Coaches	
253	Dunbar Grammar	East Linton	Eve Coaches	
107	Dunbar Grammar	East Linton	Eve Coaches	
140	Musselburgh Grammar	Whitecraig	Transport Services	S4-S6
44	Musselburgh Grammar	Wallyford	AC Taxis	3 x 60 seat buses

We have created a protocol for parents and families to follow during the COVID-19-19 pandemic, which can be found on the website.

Passes and Letters

We're busy producing letters and passes for all routes and will be sending them out this week. Operators will be updating their website with information on route pick up and times.

The impact on transport has meant we have made changes and need to deliver pupils slightly earlier in some areas to achieve the transportation of all pupils:

The main areas will be:

Musselburgh Grammar

Route MG3/111 Whitecraig to Musselburgh Grammar School

Whitecraig	0805
Musselburgh Grammar School	0810
Wallyford	0800 1 x 60 seater at Wallyford Miners & 2 x 60 seater at Salters bus Stop

Ross High

Route RH1/110 Elphinstone to Ross High School

Elphinstone	0800
Ross High School	0805

Route RH3/108 Macmerry to Ross High School

Macmerry	0750
Tranent - Police Station	0754

Route 165 Ormiston

Ormiston cross	0755
Ross High	0805

Preston Lodge High School Service 128

Johnny Cope Stone	0803
Seton East	0805
Longniddry Station	0811
Preston Lodge HS	0820

Route PL2/118 Longniddry to Preston Lodge High School

Longniddry Rail Station	0755
Longniddry Inn	0756
Longniddry – Dean Road	0757

Preston Lodge High School 0808

[Route PL3/110 – 111 Port Seton to Preston Lodge High School](#)

Port Seton – Alder Road 0755

Port Seton – Links Road 0757

Port Seton – Post Office 0759

Preston Lodge High School 0805

North Berwick High School

Service 125

Musselburgh, Police Station 0729

Levenhall Roundabout 0733

Wallyford Park & Ride 0735

Prestonpans, Hawthorn Rd 0742

Longniddry Station 0750

Aberlady, Poplar House 0758

Gullane, Goose Green 0804

Dirleton Castle 0811

North Berwick High School 0820

Service 126

Aberlady, The Pleasance 0755

Aberlady, Poplar House 0757

Luffness Mains 0759

Gullane, Goose Green 0806

North Berwick High School 0820

Service 127

Longniddry Station 0746

Drem Station 0755

Fenton Barns 0758

Dirleton Castle 0812

North Berwick High School 0820

Dunbar Grammar

East Linton Pupils

0800 East Linton Surgery (1st, 2nd, 4th & 6th years)

Linton Hotel (3rd & 5th year)

ALL other route timetables are on operator websites