

NYC DOE Transportation Information

Cleaning and Sanitation

All NYCDOE school transportation vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected each day using CDC recommended cleaning and disinfection protocols, the specifics of which will be provided to parents prior to the start of school.

All school transportation vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected each day using CDC recommended cleaning and disinfection protocols, the specifics of which will be provided to parents prior to the start of school. School buses will be equipped with non-flammable hand sanitizer, such as foaming sanitizer that is regularly used in medical facilities and is non-flammable.

NYCDOE will provide school bus vendors with CDC recommended guidance on COVID-19 symptoms as well as Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidance specific to COVID-19, which will include guidance on PPE, cleaning, and disinfection. Vendors will be expected to share with their staff. This will include signage detailing the proper use of PPE and COVID-19 symptoms.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

In accordance with NYSED and CDC recommendations, NYCDOE will require all bus operators, monitors, and attendants to wear a protective face covering while on board any school transport vehicle. All drivers, monitors, and attendants in buses will be encouraged to use their own facial coverings but in the event that they don't have a face covering, or they forgot to wear one, NYCDOE will provide one to use.

All school bus operators, attendants, monitors, and anyone who has direct contact with students must wear gloves, which will be supplied by the NYCDOE.

In accordance with NYSED and CDC recommendations, NYCDOE will require all bus passengers to wear a protective face covering while on board any school transport vehicle, unless they are unable to medically tolerate a face covering, including where such covering would impair their physical or mental health.

Students who do not have a face covering when attempting to board a bus will be provided a face covering upon entering the bus. In the event that a child does not have a face covering when attempting to board a bus, protective face coverings will be available for distribution at the bus door inside the bus.

Students with a disability which would prevent them from wearing a mask will not be forced to do so or denied transportation, but in these cases, the transportation provided may not be the conventional mode that the student had prior to March 2020. These will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

NYCDOE will provide school bus vendors with CDC guidance on PPE. All school transportation vehicles and facilities will display informational signs that detail the proper usage of PPE, as well as the symptoms of COVID-19. Vendors will be expected to share with their staff.

Social Distancing

Social distance requirements will be implemented on all school transport vehicles, which will require all passengers to maintain a minimum of 6 feet apart. The only exception to this will be students from the same household who will be seated with each other and will still be required to wear face coverings. This will reduce the typical school bus capacity to approximately 25% of its normal operating passenger capacity.

Seating on the bus will be clearly marked to designate which seats may be used and which seats will be blocked off for social distancing. Parents will be notified prior to the start of school as to what the seat designators will look like so that they can instruct their children prior to boarding the bus. Wherever possible, individual bus route rosters will be scrutinized to attempt to seat individuals in proximity to the rear emergency exit that are capable of operating it.

NYCDOE will provide school bus vendors with CDC guidance on social distancing. All school transportation vehicles and facilities will display informational signs that detail the proper usage of social distancing, as well as the symptoms of COVID-19. Vendors will be expected to share with their staff.

Health Assessments

All school bus operators, attendants, monitors, and mechanics shall assess their own health daily to determine whether it is appropriate for them to go to work that day based on CDC guidelines.

Provision of Services

Pupil transportation will be provided to nonpublic, parochial, private, charter schools or students whose individualized Education Program have placed them out of district whose schools are meeting in conducting in person session education when or if NYCDOE is not. However, it may not be the conventional mode that has been previously used. Specific arrangements will be made based on which students require such transportation.