



July 16, 2024

Families,

We are excited to have your child join us this September for Pre-Primary! We know that starting school is a big step for little ones (and their families), so we want to ensure you have the information you need about busing in advance.

### **How and when can I check my child's busing information?**

Families can view their child's transportation information, and receive notifications about service delays or changes to their busing, through an online BusPlanner Parent Portal account. You will receive an email to activate the Parent Portal and review your child's bus information by the end of July.

### **What do families need to know about busing in September?**

We all have a role to play in ensuring students get to and from school safely.

Parents/guardians or a designate are responsible for:

- Accompanying Pre-Primary to Grade 2 children to the bus stop a minimum of five minutes before their scheduled pick-up time, supervising them until safely boarded, and greeting the child at the stop at the end of the day.
- If a parent/guardian or designate is not at the stop to meet the child, families will be contacted and the child will be returned to the school for pick-up after the bus run is complete.
- Buckling and unbuckling their child from their seat at their home stop (if child is less than 40 pounds and 57 inches in height), if a seat belt is available. Bus drivers cannot leave their seats. School staff will unbuckle and buckle children at the school.

### **Purple Tag Program**

To help our youngest riders arrive to/from school safely, we also implement the **Purple Tag Program** each September. This program helps school staff and bus drivers identify children in Pre-Primary to Grade 2 to ensure they are not left alone at a stop and receive the assistance they may need. We will be in touch with more details later this summer.

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### **Register Today for the First Ride Program!**

Our service providers will host one-hour workshops this summer to educate children about school bus safety on and around the vehicle. Register as soon as possible, as limited spots are available!

Please contact us to reserve your preferred date/location at [transportation@hrce.ca](mailto:transportation@hrce.ca) or by calling 902-431-4723.

Families can choose either a **3:15 p.m.**, **4:30 p.m.** or **6:00 p.m.** workshop start time for any of the following dates:

<b>2024 Dates</b>	<b>First Ride Program Locations</b>
August 12	Halifax West High
August 14	Lockview High
August 15	Auburn Drive High
August 19	Bay View High
August 21	Dartmouth High
August 22	Rocky Lake Junior High

Our Student Transportation Team is available year-round to support families.

For frequently asked questions about transportation, please [click here](#).

Wishing your family a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,  
HRCE Student Transportation Team

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