



HALEWOOD
ACADEMY

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Mr I Critchley
Principal BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

3rd March 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Transport to School: Unacceptable Behaviour on Buses

Further to my earlier correspondence about the use of the bus to school, I am writing to inform you of the unacceptable conduct of some of our students that use the Merseytravel 786 route. This is a service that drops off and picks up on school grounds, it is not run by the school and is used by members of the public.

Recently students have left litter, caused damage, thrown water from the windows and also left the bus via the emergency exit onto the road. Clearly these are all unacceptable behaviours and could potentially cause an accident or injury to themselves or others.

I am therefore urging you as parents and carers to contact the school with information regarding further issues on admin@halewoodacademy.co.uk. I am asking for your co-operation and that of your child so we can tackle the small minority of students that are making this journey unsafe. I want you to trust that the information we receive will be treated with the upmost confidentiality to ensure anonymity for those reporting incidents.

As stated in my previous correspondence although pupils may not be on the school premises, they remain subject to the behaviour for policy while travelling to and from school and ultimately you are responsible for their behaviour. Any incidents of anti-social or unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated and this may lead to a pupil being temporarily or permanently suspended from using the service by Merseytravel. In some cases, this may also lead to involvement with the Police which may result in prosecution. If a pupil is suspended from using the bus the responsibility of ensuring a pupil attends school regularly remains with parents/carers.

The following is an extract from the school's behaviour for learning policy which clearly outlines the school's power to discipline beyond the school gates. *'Teachers have the statutory power to discipline students for misbehaving outside of the school premises. Section 89(5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives teachers statutory power to regulate students' behaviour in these circumstances "to such an extent as is reasonable." At Halewood Academy we will impose reasonable sanctions for any student taking part in a school trip, travelling to and from school, wearing school uniform or in some other way identifiable as a student at the school including on social media. This may also apply to students that pose a threat to another student or member of the public or could adversely affect the reputation of the school. These will be subject to a statement(s) being completed or a report from staff, students or member of the public. An investigation will take place and consequences will be imposed that are deemed reasonable in all circumstances.'*

I trust that I have your full support to ensure that all passengers/students that use the public bus service to and from school can travel safely.

Yours faithfully,

Mr I Critchley
Principal

MEMBER OF THE WADE DEACON TRUST

WE SEEK THE BEST