Bus Behaviour Policy

Vision: Grow - Flourish - Succeed
Mission: Together we inspire creative, mindful learners who value diversity, support one another and strive for success.

1. Introduction

At GEMS Founders School, Dubai, we are committed to ensuring that all students travel to and from school safely. Positive behaviour on school transport contributes to a secure, respectful and enjoyable journey for all members of the school community.

Students are expected to demonstrate the same high standards of behaviour on school buses as they do within the school environment. All students, parents, school staff and transport personnel share responsibility for maintaining safe and orderly transport services.

2. Purpose of policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Promote student safety while travelling on school transport.
- Establish clear expectations for bus conduct.
- Ensure consistency in responding to inappropriate behaviour.
- Define the responsibilities of students, parents, school staff and transport personnel.
- Maintain a respectful and positive environment on all school buses

3. Aims and objectives

We will:

- Ensure all students remain seated throughout the journey.
- Require students to scan their ID cards when entering and exiting the bus.
- Ensure seatbelts are worn and fastened at all times.
- Promote respectful and considerate communication.
- Encourage students to keep hands, feet and belongings to themselves.
- Ensure students follow instructions from bus drivers, bus guardians and school staff.
- Maintain a food-free and drink-free bus environment for safety purposes.
- Promote responsible use of electronic devices.
- Encourage positive relationships between students and transport staff.
- Maintain a safe and orderly bus park environment

Student Expectations

Students must:

- Remain seated during the entire journey.
- Wear their seatbelt at all times.
- Scan their ID cards upon boarding and leaving the bus.

- Speak respectfully to others.
- Follow instructions immediately.
- Refrain from consuming food, drinks, chewing gum or lollipops.
- Use personal devices responsibly and appropriately.
- Respect school property and the property of others.

Managing Behaviour

The school operates an escalating sanctions process for breaches of bus expectations.
Sanctions may include:

- Verbal reminders.
- Bus Incident Reports.
- Parent meetings.
- Letters of Undertaking.
- Temporary suspension from transport services.
- Permanent removal of transport privileges in serious cases.

Immediate Suspension Incidents

The following behaviours may result in immediate suspension from bus services:

- Rudeness towards the driver or conductor.
- Physical aggression towards students or staff.
- Bullying.
- Racist or discriminatory language or behaviour.
- Cyberbullying or misuse of electronic devices.
- Deliberate damage to property.
- Unauthorised access to or exit from the bus park.
- Failure to follow safeguarding instructions from staff.

Lateness to the Bus

Students should proceed directly to their designated bus at dismissal.
Students who deliberately loiter and miss their bus may be required to arrange alternative transportation.
Persistent lateness or loitering may lead to suspension of transport privileges.

Suspension Guidelines

Suspensions may be applied based on the frequency and severity of incidents:

- 1–5 days: Repeated breaches of bus rules.
- 5 days to one term: Continued breaches of expectations.
- Permanent suspension: Persistent, dangerous or abusive behaviour.

4. Inclusion Including Reference to SEND, EAL and G&T

All students at GEMS Founders School, Dubai are entitled to safe and equitable access to school transport services. The implementation of this policy will take into account the individual needs of students with additional learning requirements, students with English as an Additional Language, and students identified as Gifted and Talented. Appropriate support and reasonable adjustments will be provided where necessary.

5. Parental involvement

Parents play an important role in supporting positive bus behaviour.

Parents are expected to:

- Discuss bus expectations with their children.
- Support school sanctions where necessary.
- Attend meetings when requested.
- Sign Letters of Undertaking where applicable.
- Ensure students understand expectations regarding device use and conduct whilst travelling on the bus

6. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored by the school leadership team in collaboration with the transport provider.

Bus Incident Reports will be reviewed regularly to ensure consistency in implementation and to identify any emerging concerns regarding student safety and behaviour.

This policy has been discussed and agreed by GEMS Founders School, Dubai leadership, teaching staff and transport partners for implementation.

Signed Date: 15 June 2026.....

Manager of School Operations

Signed ..... Date 15 June 2026.....

Associate Principal

Signed ..... Date 15 June 2026.....

Executive Principal/CEO/Executive Vice President of Education

Next policy review date:
August 2027