



Lochside Academy
School Transport Information and Guidance for
Parents/Carers and Children

School Reopening - August 2020 (COVID-19)

General Information



- **Children are encouraged to avoid travelling to school on either public or school transport with walking and cycling being promoted where safe to do so, which are suitable options for a number of children attending Lochside Academy.**
- The Scottish Government has confirmed that no physical distancing is required on school transport, however, to ensure adherence to guidance from Government and for the safety of children travelling to school, a number of changes are required to the school transport provision.
- Physical distancing is still required between adults and children on School Transport. In line with public transport, this is expected to be 1 metre distancing with the wearing of face coverings, where appropriate.
- Transport Providers will be required to adhere to Transport Scotland's Guidance for Transport Operators, which includes enhanced cleaning regimes on all vehicles.
- Vehicles are required to be well ventilated during the journey, which means that windows etc. will always be open during the journey. This may mean that the vehicle is cooler than normal.



Coach Transport (applicable to Torry and Kincorth pupils only)

- Due to the reduced hours and numbers travelling, the normal Lochside Academy bus services will not operate on these days. Dedicated coach services will operate on these days instead.
- The coaches will operate reduced routing, compared to the normal bus services, and will operate as follows:

Torry

- **Route:**

Victoria Bridge – Victoria Road (*board north side – harbour side*) – St Fitticks Road (*board east side – golf course side*) – Balnagask Road (*board south side – Girdleness Rd side*) – Wellington Road – Lochside Academy (reverse on return journey).

- **Timetable:**

Coach 1, departs Victoria Bridge at: 08:35am

Coach 2, departs Victoria Bridge at: 08:37am

Coach 3, depart Victoria Bridge at: 08:40am

All 3 coaches to depart Lochside Academy, once filled, after the 11am finish time.

Kincorth

- **Route:**

Coaches 1 and 2 to operate the following route:

Provost Watt Drive (*board east side – West Tullos Rd side*) – Faulds Gate (*board south side – Abbotswell school side*) – Cairngorm Drive (*board north side – old Kincorth Academy side*) – Arbroath Way (*board north side – shopping centre side*) – Abbotswell Crescent – Wellington Road – Lochside Academy. (reverse on return journey).

Coach 3 to operate the following route:

Provost Watt Drive (*board east side – West Tullos Rd side*) – Arbroath Way (*board north side – shopping centre side*) – Abbotswell Crescent – Wellington Road – Lochside Academy. (reverse on return journey).

- **Timetable:**

Coach 1, departs Provost Watt Drive (Covenanters Drive) at: 08:37am

Coach 2, departs Provost Watt Drive (Covenanters Drive) at: 08:40am

Coach 3, departs Provost Watt Drive (Covenanters Drive) at: 08:42am

All 3 coaches to depart Lochside Academy, once filled, after the 11am finish time.

Notes

- Children should go to their nearest bus stop on the route noted. It is advised that children are at the bus stop, 5 minutes prior to the pick-up time.
- Each coach will stop at each bus stop on the route where children are waiting, until full. Once full the coach will then travel directly to Lochside Academy and pupils waiting at the following stops will be collected by the next coach.
- Bus passes will not be required on these days and children, in uniform, will be permitted to board the coaches. Children may be asked to show their Accord Card, as a flash pass, as evidence.

Seating Arrangements

- Children must follow directions and instructions given to them by Transport staff.
- For coaches the vehicle will be filled from the rear of the vehicle.
- Children should take a seat as quickly as possible and fasten their seat belt.

Pupils from Cove

- Due to the reduced hours and numbers travelling, the service 21A will not operate on these days.
- Any children from Cove, wishing to use public transport to attend Lochside on these days, should use the First service 3.

Lochside Bus Services (from w/c 17th August, onwards)



- From Monday 17th August 2020, the Lochside bus services will recommence operation, routes and timetables can be viewed at: <https://lochside.aberdeen.sch.uk/updated-bus-timetable-2019-20/>.
- The following school time services will continue to operate as local bus services; however these have been re-designated as school only services, which means only school children can travel on these services and no adults will be permitted to travel, this means, in line with dedicated school transport, no physical distancing is required:
 - 22A, Victoria Road – Lochside Academy via Balnagask Road.
 - 22C, Balnagask circle – Lochside Academy, via Girdleness Road.
 - 31, Victoria Bridge – Lochside Academy.
 - 21A, Cove/Charleston – Lochside Academy.
 - 181, Gardner Drive – Lochside, via Cairngorm Drive.
 - 182, Provost Watt Drive – Lochside Academy, via Faulds Gate.
 - 183, Provost Watt Drive – Lochside Academy.
- The following services are open to the general public and as such children travelling on these services, at any time, must adhere to physical distancing requirements on public transport, more information can be viewed at: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/transport-transition-plan/advice-on-how-to-travel-safely/#section-63885>
 - 3, Mastrick - Cove, via Victoria Bridge
 - 18, Dyce – Redmoss Road, via Provost Watt Drive

Bus Passes (applicable to Torry and Kincorth pupils only)



- From week commencing Monday 17th August 2020 when using the bus services, bus passes will be required. The bus passes will be loaded onto pupils Accord cards, in school, throughout the course of this week.
- As bus passes will not be loaded onto pupils Accord cards immediately, if you are using one of the school time services (22A, 22C, 31, 181, 182 and 183), bus drivers will let any children in uniform on the buses for the first and second weeks, w/c 17th August and w/c 24th August, without the bus pass product being on the Accord card. Children may be asked to show their Accord Card, as a flash pass, as evidence. If you are travelling on the service 3 or 18 you may be asked to pay a fare, if you do need to use these services, please speak to the school office so that you can be provided with a travel voucher.
- Any children who have lost or damaged their Accord card since they were last in school should speak to the school office to arrange a replacement, in which case travel vouchers will be provided until the replacement Accord card has been received.

Please make sure your child fully understands the following before travelling:

Travel Advice



Confirming Passenger can travel

- Children should not travel if they or a member of their household are feeling unwell with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) - a new, continuous cough or high temperature or a change in normal sense of taste or smell or are self-isolating on the advice of NHS contact tracing. Transport providers will decline access to transport if passengers are unwell.

Protect Yourself & Others

Hygiene

- **Please wash your hands or use hand sanitiser before AND after travelling.**
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin. Alternatively, if you need to sneeze or cough, do so into the crook of your elbow.
- No eating or drinking should take place in the vehicle.
- For children who travel in wheelchairs, please ensuring wheelchairs are kept clean and touch points wiped down prior to travelling.
- Passengers will also be restricted on belongings which can be brought onto the vehicle and only essential items should travel with the child to school.

Seating Arrangements

- Children must follow directions and instructions given to them by Transport staff.
- Children travelling on the vehicle should fill the vehicle from the rear first.
- Children should enter and exit the bus in an orderly manner.
- Children should take a seat as quickly as possible on boarding and remain seated in that seat until alighting.

Behaviour

- You should be on your best behaviour throughout your journey. Ensuring adherence to the measures in place for safe transportation. This is critical to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all passengers.
 - **Please note:**
 - Access to the existing school transport provision may be refused for children who persist in bad behaviour or do not follow the measures outlined in this guidance.
 - The school may also take disciplinary action against a child misbehaving on transport to and from school.
 - Transport Providers have the right to refuse to carry children, where they believe there is a risk to the safety of the other passengers.

Face Coverings



- Children using Public Transport services, such as those operated for Lochside Academy, should wear a face covering for the duration of all journeys, except for those for whom doing so would create a medical risk, including anxiety and has a clear medical condition confirmed by GP.
- Where a child is wearing a disposable face covering, they should keep the covering on until they are in school/home and then dispose of the face covering as appropriate in the waste. Reusable face coverings should be stored appropriately during the school day. Cloth face coverings should be washed regularly and in accordance with current advice.
- Drivers on these bus services will be behind a Perspex screen and as such will not be required to wear any face covering.

Boarding/Alighting the vehicle



Boarding the vehicle

- At the bus stop, children should physically distance, where possible. The location of some stops may not allow for this. In this event stand safely away from each other as much as possible.
- As travel passes are in use, please ensure this is ready to use, wait and allow one person at a time on the bus whilst presenting your travel pass onto the card reader on the bus. Any children using vouchers, should pass these to the driver.
- Children should fill the vehicle from the rear.
- Children should take a seat as quickly as possible on boarding and remain seated in that seat until alighting.
- Children must follow directions and instructions given to them by Transport staff.

Alighting the vehicle

- For alighting children should ring the bell, but please remain seated until the vehicle has come to a stop at the drop off point.
- Passengers should alight in an orderly manner.
- Once on the pavement move away from the vehicle immediately to allow others leave the vehicle.

Vehicle Cleaning



- Transport Providers must have appropriate enhanced cleaning regimes in place and the details of these have been shared with the school transport team.
- The school transport team have provided guidance to support Transport providers in ensuring appropriate cleaning measures are in place, in line with public health guidelines.
- Transport providers have implemented relevant training for staff.
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned quickly after each journey, wherever possible. This is especially important where vehicles are used for other purposes before and after transporting children to school. Enhanced cleaning will also take place at the end of each day.
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- A number of Transport providers operating coaches and buses have implemented long-lasting sanitising treatments on their vehicles, e.g. fogging machines.