

# COVID-19 POSITION STATEMENT

## **PASSENGER TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS LIMITED**

Based on information supplied in the Government's operational guidance for schools from 17<sup>th</sup> August, Passenger Transport Solutions Limited (PTS) position statement for the delivery of dedicated transport of Loughborough Schools Foundation (LSF) pupils and students is detailed below.

Dedicated transport means services that are used to carry only LSF pupils and students to the schools.

The position statement for **Home to School Services** is as follows:

### **PTS will:**

1. Plan transport in the most efficient logistical manner using the majority of the vehicle's available capacity; and
2. Require all transport providers to implement the system of controls and measures that are reasonable in the circumstances as per the latest guidance.

### **The Operator/Drivers will:**

be required to undertake a number of additional operational precautions both pre and post journey including:

1. Wear face coverings (but not mandatory).
2. Use the same vehicle for AM and PM journeys, or a replacement 'sanitised' vehicle to be sent.
3. Ensure all vehicles are sanitised prior to commencing each part of the service (AM & PM), with particular attention to disinfecting hard surfaces such as handles, grips, seat belts etc.
4. Provide hand sanitiser on board.
5. Ensure the vehicle is well ventilated. (Air conditioning set to external or windows and vents open).
6. Provide appropriate signage related to the procedures required in relation to COVID-19 controls;
7. If possible, fit protective shields for the driver.
8. Work in connection with LSF to board pupils/students by filling the seats from the rear first and alight from the front.
9. Ensure that all students are seated.

### **COVID-19**

10. Operators shall ensure that a driver reporting symptoms of COVID-19 shall NOT be employed to drive and that all drivers undertake necessary daily checks to confirm their suitability to drive that day.

### **Pupils/Students should:**

1. Wash/sanitise hands **before** and **after** every journey (however on-board sanitisers will be provided on the bus).
2. Wear a face covering during the whole journey (a covering of any type which covers their nose and mouth)
3. Remain seated and facing forward at all times.
4. Avoid touching any surfaces unless absolutely necessary.
5. Sit in the same seat on travel to/from school and fill the rear seats of the vehicle first and alight from the front (where appropriate).
6. Not eat or drink on the vehicle.
7. Limit the amount of baggage they carry.

### **COVID-19**

8. Pupils/Students should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine or awaiting the result of a PCR test).
9. If a PCR test is taken within 2 days of a positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil/student can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.
10. If any pupil/student reports COVID-19 symptoms to the driver whilst on the journey to school, the driver shall immediately report to a member of staff on duty in the LSF car park. The pupil/student will be directed to see a nurse and parents/guardians called to collect them.
11. If any pupil/student reports symptoms to the driver whilst on the journey home, the driver shall complete the route and then return directly to the depot. The bus company will then immediately report the incident to LSF. (It is expected that the parents/guardians of any such pupil/student contact their respective school immediately to report such an instance).

Note: In the event of a pupil/student that uses a bus service testing positive for Covid-19, close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and LSF will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. On dedicated school transport, this is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact.