

School Bus Services and Travel Advice

Manchester Schools

Academic Year 2019/20

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Summary

This booklet shows all home to school bus services as provided to schools within the City of Manchester.

Other booklets are available for schools across the other 9 districts of Greater Manchester and these can be found at www.tfgm.com/schools.

In addition to the services contained in this booklet, there is a network of general bus services which can also be used to get to and from school. Details of these can be found at www.tfgm.com/bus.

Services shown in this booklet operate only on the school days of the schools that the services operate for and will not operate during school holidays or on days when students are not in attendance. Some buses are shared between schools and in these instances, buses will operate on days that all relevant schools are in attendance unless marked on the timetable.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS - If you are using this information to choose your child's school, please be aware that these services are subject to change and may be withdrawn due to low use and/or a suitable public transport alternative. This may involve a journey of up to 90 minutes and a change of bus on route.

Frequently Asked Questions

Please see the information below on popular questions relating to school bus services in Manchester.

Who co-ordinates and funds the school bus services?

Schools bus services are co-ordinated by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM). TfGM don't run any buses, but most of the services in this booklet are provided by funding from TfGM to bus operators to provide the services shown.

How do you decide where to run the buses?

Most schools have provided information to TfGM to allow us to understand the areas where students live to determine where there is likely to be a demand for services. Buses are not cheap to run, so to ensure that we make the maximum use of the resources we have available, we will only provide buses where there are at least 30 students on a line of route. Where there are less than 30 students then the general service network can be used to get to/from school.

There is no bus for my child to get to school. How are they going to get there?

Many students across Greater Manchester use the general network of services to get to/from school, details of these are provided within the timetable pages.

The route and timetable of my child's service has been changed from last year, why is this?

As the numbers of students to schools from individual areas fluctuates, this means that routes may be revised to cater for these fluctuations. In order to ensure that there are enough students on the route, buses from areas may be combined to ensure that there are enough numbers of students along the line of route.

Will it change again?

TfGM reviews the operation and use of services throughout the year and particularly during the autumn term to determine whether any changes are necessary. Mid-year changes predominantly take place at October half-term but can take place at any point in the year. It is possible that routes may change again next year if the number of students using services are low, suitable alternative services are in place or if there has been a change in the location of students attending school.

My child is applying for a place not at our local school, there is a bus service there now, will it be there next year?

Services are unfortunately subject to change, and the provision of a service this year does not mean that the service will necessarily be provided next year. Before deciding to attend a non-local school, parents/carers are urged to consider how your child would get to school if the school bus was no longer provided.

My child's school bus now drops them off much earlier and picks them up later than now, why is this?

In order to make maximum use of our buses, we will look to use the buses to run more than one journey. This means that some students will be dropped off earlier in the morning to allow the bus to run onto another school or will be picked up later in the afternoon because the bus has run a journey preceding. Morning drop offs may be up to 30 minutes before start of school and afternoon pick-ups may be up to 20 minutes after the end of school.

We live local to our school - will my child be able to use the bus?

Most of our school bus services have been designed to carry students who live more than 2 miles from school. 2 miles has been used as this is the minimum statutory distance before students may be eligible for free school travel. Whilst there may be a limited number of places available for students who live closer than 2 miles, local students are encouraged to walk to school. More information on walking to/from school can be found at www.tfgm.com/walking.

Why don't you just put another bus?

TfGM's funding predominantly comes from a levy on the 10 districts of Greater Manchester and ultimately from the Council Tax. Like most Local Authorities we have a limited budget, and this means that we don't have the money to simply put on an extra bus. Where buses are not provided, the students numbers are low enough to be accommodated on the general service network.

Will my child get a seat on the bus?

Most buses provided allow for both seated and standing passengers, this means that some students may need to stand especially on more popular services. This ensures that we can provide places to the maximum number of students possible.

My child has a large sports bag or instrument, do you provide luggage space?

Unfortunately, the buses we use have very limited luggage space to ensure that we can carry the maximum number of students. If there is room on the bus then drivers may allow the carriage of a large item, but this cannot be at the expense of carrying another student and if your child's service is very popular then you will need to consider alternative methods.

My child has lost their bag, who do I contact?

Check who the operator of the service is and contact them directly using the contact information on Page 5.

Are the buses provided only for school students?

Except for services beginning with a Y, all school bus services operate as local bus services. This means that they are open for everyone to use. Most of the time services are not used by anyone other than students, but it is possible.

Do I need a special pass to use the school buses?

Except for services beginning with a Y, then no passes are required to travel. However, in order to travel for reduced fare on the bus, students must hold an iGo card and present this to the driver each time. More information on iGo cards can be found at www.tfgm.com/tickets-and-passes/igo-pass. Students travelling on most services beginning with a Y also require a Yellow School Bus Pass. More information on this can be found at www.tfgm.com/tickets-and-passes/bus-yellow-school-buses.

If you've any other question not answered above, then please call our Traveline team on 0161 244 1000.

Using the Bus

The following notes will help you in using the bus, especially if it is your first time using one.

Planning the journey

It's a good idea to check which bus is best to catch. All school bus services are shown in this booklet, but you may be using a regular bus service which carries other people. Try and find out in advance where to find the nearest stop is, so that you are confident where to go on the first day.

Even if you've caught the bus before then check that the times and the route haven't changed, you don't want to be late on the first day!

Plan to arrive at the stop 5 minutes before the bus is due to ensure that you don't miss it.

Waiting for the bus

There may be more than one person waiting for a bus at the stop, so wait sensibly away from the road; please be mindful of other bus passengers who may be waiting for the bus also. Do not push or trip others on the pavement whilst waiting for the bus, as it could cause an accident.

Make sure you have your pass and any fare ready before the bus arrives, this will mean that the driver won't have to wait for you to find it and delay the journey.

As the bus approaches make sure it is your bus by checking the service number and destination which are clearly displayed on the front of the bus; raise your arm as a signal to the driver that you want the bus to stop.

Getting on the bus

Board the bus calmly and do not push other people in front or to the side of you to get on more quickly; make sure that you allow other passengers to board the bus if they were there before you.

Show your pass to the driver, and where necessary pay your fare, try to have the correct change if possible.

Then find a seat on the bus, use seats upstairs if necessary.

During the journey

Stay seated throughout the journey, if seatbelts are fitted then they must be worn.

If no seats are available and you must stand then ensure that you always hold onto handrails, that you don't stand upstairs, on the stairs or to the side of the driver.

Do not distract the driver unless it is an emergency and do not cause any damage to the bus or interfere with its working.

Getting off the bus

When your stop is next, ring the bell once. If it has already been rung, you do not need to ring it again.

If you need to cross the road when you get off the bus, wait until the bus has moved off and you can see the road clearly in both directions or go to the nearest available crossing.

REMEMBER: When using the bus, behave sensibly and safely for all parts of the journey.

Any pupil that causes damage to buses, bus stops or shelters and/or does not meet the required standard of behaviour on the bus could:

- Have their pass withdrawn.
- Be banned from the bus.
- Be prosecuted by the police.
- Be required to pay for any damage they have caused.

Operator Contact Details

The following operators operate bus services across Manchester, if you have any lost luggage queries or complaints regarding the operation of the services then please contact the operators below.

Operator Code	Operator	Contact Details	
BEV	Belle Vue	The Travel Centre, Crossley Road, Stockport, SK4 5DZ	p 0161 947 9477
			w www.bellevue-mcr.com
			e sales@bellevue-mcr.com
			t @BelleVue_Buses
DGB	D&G Buses	Mossfield Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 5BW	p 01270 252970
			w www.dgbus.co.uk
			e info@dgbus.co.uk
			t
DIA	Diamond Bus	22/23 Chanters Industrial Estate, Atherton, Manchester, M46 9BE	p 01942 888 893
			w www.diamondbuses.com/north-west
			e comments@diamondbusnorthwest.co.uk
			t @DiamondBusNW
FIR	First	Wallshaw Street, Oldham, OL1 3TR	p 0161 627 2929
			w www.firstgroup.com/greater-manchester
			t @FirstManchester
GNW	Go North West	Boyle Street, Manchester, M8 8UT	p 0330 1234 121
			w www.gonorthwest.co.uk
			e ask@gonorthwest.co.uk
			t @gnwbus
GOO	Go Goodwins	Lyntown Trading Estate, Eccles, Manchester, M30 9QG	p 0161 789 4545
			w www.gogoodwins.co.uk
			e enquiries@gogoodwins.co.uk
			t @gogoodwins
MCT	Manchester Community Transport	Crossley Park, Crossley Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport, SK4 5BF	p 0161 946 9255
			w www.manct.org
			e info@manct.org
			t @mct_travel
MET	Metrolink	Metrolink Customer Services, M16 0GZ	p 0161 205 2000
			w www.tfgm.com/tram
			e customerservices@metrolink.co.uk
			t @MCRMetrolink
NRL	Northern Rail	Freeport NORTHERN RAILWAY	p 0800 200 6060
			w www.northernrailway.co.uk
			e enquiries@northernrailway.co.uk
			t @northernassist
ROS	Rosso	Queensgate Depot, Colne Rd, Burnley, BB10 1HH	p 0345 6040110
			w www.rossobus.com
			e hello@burnleybus.co.uk
			t @rossobus
SEL	Selwyns Travel	Unit 6, Paston Road, Sharston, Manchester, M22 4TF	p 0161 945 9122
			w www.selwyns.co.uk
			e sales.manchester@selwyns.co.uk
			t @SelwynsCoaches
STG	Stagecoach	Hyde Road, Manchester, M12 6JS	p 0161 273 3377
			w www.stagecoachbus.com
			e manchester.enquiries@stagecoachbus.com
			t @StagecoachGM
STO	Stotts Buses	142-144 Lees Road, Oldham, OL4 1HT	p 0161 624 4200
			w www.stottsbuses.co.uk
			e enquiries@stottsbuses.co.uk

For any other queries or comments on services in Manchester then please contact TfGM on 0161 244 1000 or use the contact form at www.tfgm.com/contact.

Fares Information

Passengers can pay a fare to the driver for each journey shown on this timetable. However, students will need to show an IGO pass to travel at the concessionary (reduced) fare. If students do not have an IGO pass, they will have to pay a higher fare.

All students between the ages of 11 and 16 need an igo pass if they wish to travel at the concessionary fare on buses. It must be carried on all journeys and shown to the driver before paying the fare.

The igo pass costs £10 and can only be bought by students who live in or go to school in Greater Manchester. More information on IGO and an application form to get an IGO pass is on the TfGM website at <http://igo.tfgm.com>

Students who are entitled to a free Scholars Travel Pass and students aged between 16 and 19 who have a Scholars Concessionary Pass, do not need an igo Pass for these journeys.

Unless marked within the timetables then the following fares are applicable on school bus services:

igo Single Ticket - £1.40	igo Return Ticket - £2.40
Scholar Pass Single Ticket - £1.40	no return available
Single Ticket (without igo) - £1.80	no return available

TfGM School Weekly - £7.40

The above tickets are only valid for use on the school bus service to/from school. It is not valid on any other services, therefore if you miss the bus you will need to buy another ticket to travel.

System One Passes

System One passes allow use on the school bus services included in this guide as well as all other bus services within Greater Manchester for the duration of the ticket. Tickets may be used after school and at weekends where applicable and offer better value than purchasing additional tickets at the weekend.

1 Day Any Bus Junior - £2.90 – available from the driver
7 Day Any Bus Junior - £9.50 – available from the driver
28 Day Any Bus Junior - £34.00 – must be purchased at TfGM Travelshops or Pay Point locations.

The above tickets are for 11-16 years only and an igo card is required.

1 Day Any Bus 16-18 - £2.90 – available from the driver
7 Day Any Bus Young Person - £13.50 – must be purchased at TfGM Travelshops or Pay Point locations.
28 Day Any Bus Young Person - £47.50 – must be purchased at TfGM Travelshops or Pay Point locations.

These tickets are available to Sixth Form and College students with a get me there card.

Other tickets are available for individual operators, details of these can be found on their respective websites.

Free School Travel

You may be entitled to free travel to and from school if you:

are under 8 years old and live more than 2 miles from your nearest qualifying school;
are aged 8-16 years old and live more than 3 miles from nearest qualifying school.

Your child may qualify for free travel if they are eligible for free school meals or if the parents receives their maximum level of Working Tax Credit. In this instance the following applies:

are under 11 years old and live more than 2 miles from your nearest qualifying school;
are aged 11-16 years old and live between 2 and 6 miles from attended school, if there are not three or more nearer qualifying schools.
are aged 11-16 years old and live between 2 and 15 miles from your nearest school preferred on the grounds of religion or belief.

Further information on eligibility for free school travel may be found at:

https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/100005/schools_education_and_childcare/7048/apply_for_a_school_travel_pass_or_cycle_voucher

The following bus services run close by - more details can be found at www.tfgm.com:

Go-North West service 52 – Failsworth, Newton Heath, Harpurhey, Crumpsall, Cheetham Hill, Hghtown, Pendleton, Eccles
 First service 81 – Derker, Greenacres, Oldham, Werneth, Hollinwood, Harpurhey, Collyhurst, Manchester
 First service 81A – Holts, Lees, Greenacres, Oldham, Werneth, Hollinwood, Harpurhey, Collyhurst, Manchester
 Stagecoach service 112 – Middleton, Moorclose, Middleton Junction, Harpurhey, Collyhurst, Manchester
 Stagecoach service 114 – Alkington, Middleton Junction, Central Park, Monsall, Miles Platting, Manchester
 Stagecoach service 118 – NMGH, Blackley, Charlestown, Harpurhey, Collyhurst, Manchester
 Stagecoach service 118A – Dam Head, Blackley, Charlestown, Harpurhey, Collyhurst, Manchester
 First service 181 – Shaw, Royton, Chadderton, Newton Heath, Manchester
 First service 182 – Milnrow, Newhay, Shaw, Royton, Chadderton, Newton Heath, Manchester

Additionally specific schoolday only services also serve the school as follows:

Rosso Service 709 – Ancoats, Newton Heath
 Rosso/Stagecoach Service 710 – Higher Blackley, Dam Head

Changes to schoolday only services from 1 September 2019

New service 710 will be introduced from Higher Blackley and Dam Head. This service will be operated by Rosso morning and Stagecoach afternoon.

Service Y8 is withdrawn due to low student numbers in Failsworth – students can use service 52 or 709.

Service Y9 will be renumbered 709 retimed to run up to 3 minutes earlier to improve punctuality. It will be operated by Rosso.

Ancoats / Newton Heath		Service 709	
TfGM Contract:	0358	TfGM Contract:	0358
Minimum Capacity:	70	Minimum Capacity:	70
Operator Code:	ROS	Operator Code:	ROS
Ancoats, Clinic	0752	St Matthew's High School	1450
Phillips Park	0757	Newton Heath, Lidl	1455
Newton Heath, Lidl	0803	Phillips Park	1459
St Matthew's High School	0810	Ancoats, Clinic	1507

Service 709 route: From Ancoats, Clinic via Old Mill Lane, Bradford Road, Hulme Hall Lane, Briscoe Lane, Old Church Street, Dean Lane, St Mary's Road, Nuthurst Road **to St Matthew's High School.**

Returning from St Matthew's High School via Nuthurst Road, Broadway, Oldham Road, Old Church Street and outward route reversed **to Ancoats, Clinic.**

Higher Blackley / Blackley / Dam Head		Service 710	
TfGM Contract:	0479	TfGM Contract:	0446
Minimum Capacity:	85	Minimum Capacity:	90
Operator Code:	ROS	Operator Code:	STG
Victoria Avenue/Rochdale Road	0733	St Matthew's High School	1450
Higher Blackley, Post Office	0736	Dam Head, Newcliffe Road	1459
Blackley, Golden Lion	0743	Blackley, Golden Lion	1505
Dam Head, Newcliffe Road	0749	Higher Blackley, Post Office	1509
St Matthew's High School	0800	Cooper Lane/Chain Lane	1514

Service 710 route: From Victoria Avenue/Rochdale Road via Victoria Avenue, Tweedle Hill Road, Chapel Lane, Old Market Street, Middleton Old Road, Rochdale Road, White Moss Road, Newcliffe Road, Victoria Avenue East, Lightbowne Road, Nuthurst Road **to Nuthurst Road (St Mary's Church).**

Returning from St Matthew's High School via Nuthurst Road, Broadway, Hollinwood Avenue, Victoria Avenue East and outward route reversed to Victoria Avenue, Cooper Lane **to Higher Blackley, Chain Lane.**