

**Headteacher:**  
Corina Foster



**The Valley School**  
Broadhall Way  
Stevenage  
Herts SG2 9BN  
Tel: 01438 747274  
[admin@thevalley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thevalley.herts.sch.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **FAO THOSE WHO ARE ENTITLED TO HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT**

Following the government's announcement that all pupils should return to school fulltime in September, Hertfordshire County Council has been liaising with schools and negotiating with transport operators to plan home to school transport.

The view of the Local Authority is that all vehicles contracted by the County Council, including taxis and minibuses to Special Schools, will run as "normal" from September. The guidance that we have received reflects their opinion that social distancing is not required on vehicles contracted by the County Council to transport children to and from school. You should therefore expect your child to travel in a shared vehicle unless there are specific circumstances (unrelated to COVID-19) that mean your child needs to travel alone.

In recognition that this will be an anxious time for both parents/carers and children, they are working with operators to minimise risk by enforcing the following expectations:

- Vehicles will be cleaned regularly.
- Drivers will wear masks.
- Handwashing/sanitising routines will be put in place by schools.
- Parents and carers will ensure their child washes their hands before boarding the transport and immediately upon their return from school.
- Pupils will be expected to understand that touch/contact with other passengers in the vehicle must be limited.
- Any requests from schools/operators on safe travel will be fully observed.
- Any child displaying symptoms of coronavirus will not be allowed to travel.
- Both the school and the operator will be alerted if Coronavirus is suspected or confirmed.

We will continue to secure greater details and reassurances about these plans.



## **Personal Transport Budgets (PTBs)**

You are entitled to make your own arrangements for safe travel between your home and school by applying for a PTB. PTBs are calculated on the basis of 0.45p a mile, using the child's home-school distance and four journeys a day. For example, a child living 10 miles from school would receive a PTB of £18 per day/£90 per week (0.45 x 10 x 4).

If you are interested in receiving a PTB please email my PA, Kellie Ransom at [kellie.ransom@thevalley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:kellie.ransom@thevalley.herts.sch.uk) **by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020** so she can liaise with County Transport.

Yours sincerely,

*Corina Foster*

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Headteacher