

TAUPO TRANSPORT NETWORK GROUP

MEMO TO ALL STUDENTS WHO USE OUR SERVICE

To our Students, Parents, Caregivers

This is a formal request for your support in keeping our bus transportation service safe for all concerned.

This service is financed and provided by the Ministry of Education, and we as a group of local schools are responsible for the administration and organization.

All users of this service should therefore understand that it is a privilege to travel on these buses and in most cases, this service is provided at no cost for those who are eligible. The eligibility criteria are determined by the Ministry of Education as follows:

1. The school attended must be the **closest** (of its type – primary/intermediate/secondary) to where the student lives.
2. Students must live **more than a defined distance** from the school:
 - a. Students in Years 1 to 8 must live at least 3.2 km (by road) from the school's front gate.
 - b. Students in Years 9 to 13 must live at least 4.8 km (by road) from the school's front gate.
3. There must be **no suitable public transport**.

Presently our routes are under review by the Ministry of Education, requiring us to provide them the names and actual addresses of all our students. Once they have processed the information the Ministry will allocate the bus routes and finance accordingly.

In the past we have made provision for students who do not meet the eligibility criteria, above, to use the bus service. Importantly, there must be enough room on the buses and these students have had to pay for this service. In 2021 the annual cost is \$300, payable to your child's school.

The **Turangi Bus Service** is a private bus company, but we require our students to adhere to the same protocols as our School bus system. We **DO NOT** act on any queries regarding their service, and or operation.

This message applies to both parties and we expect that all our students -

- ***using our service to cooperate fully at all times with the Bus Controllers, Bus Drivers***
- ***behaviour will be positive at all times and that we cannot have our drivers being distracted from the important task of driving. This is particularly important with the winter driving conditions.***
- ***not damage or vandalize the buses as any repairs or replacements will be charged to the offender/s – we are fortunate that Nimons provide us with a modern fleet of vehicles.***
- ***obey the road rules at all the bus stops, transition points, when waiting for pickups or when getting off the bus.***
- ***remind their parents to pick up and drop off in a safe manner i.e. DON'T PARK across the road from the Bus Stop and expect your child to cross the road to get to you.***

We will have no hesitation in removing any student from the bus service for any breach of these conditions and expect that you will then have to make your own arrangements to get your child to and from school.

Regards

Bill Clarke

Principal / Chairman of the Taupo Schools Bus Network
