

Good afternoon,

We recognise the important role that London's hard-working teaching professionals are playing in supporting children and young people as they return to schools and colleges full-time this September.

We are also committed to making back-to-school travel safe, comfortable and sustainable, as the need for social distancing remains in place, and we are writing to encourage your continued work with parents, carers and students to enable this.

We now have a dedicated webpage for education which will also be regularly updated at: <https://tfl.gov.uk/reopeningeducation>. This webpage has some useful resources to help you plan your restart safely and sustainably. **Please share this link directly with the schools and headteachers across your borough to enable these resources to be cascaded before the end of the current school year.**

Our school travel guidance will be updated in the coming weeks in step with the emerging guidance from Government and we will keep you updated during the summer as the situation develops, so please keep checking back on the website.

In the meantime, please see our latest advice below:

- Where possible **enable and encourage children [and parents, carers and teachers] to walk, cycle or scooter** to help free up more space on public transport for others
 - ✓ Enhance cycle and scooter parking at your site
 - ✓ Consider promoting 'walking buses' (supervising a group of children walking to, or from, school)
 - ✓ Start your own School Street, temporarily closing roads at school gates to traffic during drop-off and pick-up times to support safer, greener and healthier trips to and from school
- If many of your children travel by bus, **consider staggering your start and finish times** to help social distancing and help take the pressure off at peak travel times across London (05:45 - 08:15 and 16:00 - 17:30)
 - ✓ Work with neighbouring schools and education settings whose pupils use the same services so that staggered times reduce the overall number of children using local public transport stations and services during the busiest times. Changing times by 30 minutes at the start and end of today can make a real difference and will help ensure pupils turn up to school on time

- Visit our dedicated webpage <https://tfl.gov.uk/reopeningeducation> for the most up to date advice and resources for schools and other education settings, including how to:
 - ✓ Take part in STARS, TfL's community project with over 1500 schools, nurseries and colleges inspiring young Londoners to travel sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely;
 - ✓ Reduce the frequency of, or retime, deliveries and servicing trips you require from your suppliers;
 - ✓ Travel in line with Government rules, wearing face coverings over both the mouth and nose for the full duration of journeys on the public transport network
- Check the [Government's official guidance](#) for more details. For more general travel guidance, visit our coronavirus webpage at <https://tfl.gov.uk/coronavirus>

In May 2020, we entered into a funding agreement with the Department of Transport (DfT), under which we were asked to bring forward proposals to temporarily suspend free travel on buses and trams for some London residents under the age of 18.

We're currently talking through the details of this with central Government and we will write to you with a further update.

Best wishes

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