



BUS CONDUCT RULES **for Ethical Culture School**

At the Bus Stop:

Arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes before bus time. The driver will only be permitted to wait 3 minutes for students. Please realize that people wait for buses, buses do not wait for people, and if everyone is 3 minutes late it can add over half an hour to the route.

- When waiting, keep yourself and belongings out of the road and away from traffic.
- Don't run between parked cars and buses.
- Never move toward the bus until it has stopped and the driver opens the door.

Getting on and off the Bus:

- Use handrails at the steps.
- Keep the aisle clear; watch clothing or backpacks with dangling drawstrings or straps.
- Never try to retrieve an item dropped near the bus – get out of the danger zone immediately.
- Be sure the bus driver can see you and you can see the driver.
- Walk in front of the bus, never behind the bus.
- Always cross at least 10 feet in front of the bus when necessary to cross.
- Never run to or from the bus.
- Stand back from the curb.
- **School Arrival:** Children will be dropped off at the **Central Park West** entrance where they will be directed to class.
- **Home Drop-off:** All students must be met at the bus by an adult authorized by the parent/guardian. All names must be on file with the bus company. Students permitted to exit the bus and enter the lobby unaccompanied, or under supervision of a building doorman, must put this in writing with the bus company. Parents are not permitted to call the bus driver en route and change drop-off authorizations.

Riding on the Bus:

- Obey the bus driver.
- Students must wear seat belts when the bus is in motion.
- Be courteous at all times; foul language is prohibited.
- Stay in your seat and face forward; never stand on a moving bus.
- Keep noise level down and do not distract the driver (no yelling or shouting).
- Do not throw anything on the bus or out the window.
- **No electronic devices including phones can be used on the bus. Phones can only be used in cases of emergency.**
- Keep hands and feet to yourselves. Don't push, shove or hit.
- Keep hands, heads and other items inside the bus windows.
- Absolutely no food or drinks are allowed on the bus.
- Harassment or intimidation of others is not permitted. **(NO BULLYING)**
- Students will never use the rear emergency exit except upon the direction of the driver or other competent authority.
- All buses are equipped with video cameras.
- Willful destruction or defacing of school bus is prohibited and families will be responsible for the cost of repairs.

There will be no play dates or special drop offs until the week of September 29th. This will enable the drivers to get to know your children, the families and caregivers. This allows the bus company to tweak the routes and get to know traffic patterns.