



Transportation Information for Parents of Kindergarten students



KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS & THE SCHOOL BUS

TRANSPORTATION SET UP for ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

Find out if your child is eligible to ride the school bus:

Elementary students must live greater than 1.6 kms from their board designated school to qualify for transportation based on their home address.

Parents must confirm their child's transportation eligibility on the HSTS website at haltonbus.ca under the Student Transportation menu by selecting "Am I Eligible For Transportation?"

OR

Scan the QR code with your mobile device.



SCAN TO CHECK ELIGIBILITY

PLEASE NOTE: Transportation eligibility information is based on the current school year. Any changes to transportation boundaries for the next school year will be updated on our website by the end of the current school year. Please continue to check the website for updates.

Students who are eligible for transportation are **automatically assigned** to a bus stop location as determined by HSTS. This means your child's name will show up on the bus list. Schools use the bus lists to make sure students get on the right bus at the end of the day.

* In order to keep students safe, it is very important to make sure the school knows whether your child is taking the bus and if they are going home or to a daycare.

My child is **ELIGIBLE** but will **NOT** be riding the bus:



The Parent/Guardian **MUST** notify the school office staff, your child's teacher and HSTS prior to the start of school so they can *remove* your child's name from the bus list and they will not place the yellow bus tag on your child's backpack.

If your child **WILL** be using the bus (to and/or from), **REMEMBER** to:



1. Inform your child's teacher
2. Inform the school office staff
3. Make sure the school has the correct address/contact information and the school will inform HSTS.

Daycare/Caregivers: Students who are eligible for transportation may request busing to/from a daycare provider/caregiver if that address is also eligible for transportation.



Kindergarten

Tags



Kindergarten students who are riding the school bus will be provided with a yellow tag (with smiley face). The tags will be sent to the schools in late August and the school will ensure that the tag is attached to your child's backpack on the first day of school before they get on the bus at the end of the day. The tag displays the student's afternoon bus route number and afternoon bus stop description. The ID tag will assist drivers in identifying kindergarten students when they are departing the bus. If your child is not going to take the bus, you must inform the school and HSTS prior to the first day of school so the tag is not placed on your child's backpack.

Please review the information on the tag to ensure that it is correct.

Your Child's Transportation Information



Busing information for eligible kindergarten students can be accessed through our [Parent Portal](#). Parents/guardians will need to create a parent portal account (if they don't already have one). You'll be able to sign up for delay or cancellation notifications emails for your child's bus routes.

BUS STOP PLACEMENT PREVIEW PERIOD

In early July, the parent portal will be open for one week to allow you to verify your child is assigned to a bus (if eligible) and to review that the bus stop location is in the correct area based on your child's primary home address or the caregiver's address (if both are eligible). The bussing information is subject to change through summer planning updates.

FINAL TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULES

Final schedules will be available starting the third week of August and can be accessed by logging into your [Parent Portal](#) account.

Stay tuned for the HSTS spring communication emails for exact dates.

For detailed instructions on how to create a parent portal account or a quick instructional video, visit haltonbus.ca and click on 'Student Transportation' and then [Parent Portal Instructions](#).

IMPORTANT: For security reasons, the Parent Portal account must be created using one of the email addresses that the school has on file as a contact for the student.





Transportation Information for Parents of Kindergarten Students



First-Time Rider Safety Program Held Annually in August!

FIRST-TIME RIDERS can practice riding the school bus, learn about the 'danger zone', how to safely wait and board the bus as well as safe crossing procedures. The program is held at multiple school locations throughout Halton annually the third week in August. Visit www.haltonbus.ca under the 'Safety' menu for the date, locations and to register online.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY VIDEOS

Visit the 'Safety' menu on haltonbus.ca to view school bus safety videos that were created specifically for first-time riders and their parents/guardians.



BUS STOP LOCATIONS are based on the Board's distance to stop policy outlined in procedure HS -1-002 -Transportation Eligibility. JK/SK students **must** be accompanied to and from the bus stop location by a designated adult.

Are you moving in the SUMMER months??



HSTS office is open in July and August when the schools are closed. We will accept address changes from parents by email only at transportation@haltonbus.ca.

Parents must communicate this information to the school **by the end of August** when schools are open.

Busing arrangements for eligible students will only be finalized once the school has confirmed the address change with HSTS.

* Please note, during regular school months HSTS can only accept address changes **from the school**.

Information Flow between parent/guardian, the school and Halton Student Transportation Services



REMEMBER, if at any time during the school year, your child no longer requires transportation, we ask that you advise your child's school who will notify Halton Student Transportation Services. Accurate bus lists are critical to student safety.

Sign up for Delay & Cancellation Email Notifications:

Parents/Guardians can sign up to receive an email notification through our **Parent Portal** if your child's bus has been delayed (anything over ten minutes) or download the free **BusPlanner Delays App** for your smartphone and receive instant notifications regarding your child's bus route. Go to the HSTS website to review the step by step instructions .

You can also click on the Delays and Cancellations link on the main page of the haltonbus.ca to view a list of route delays.



HSTS IS COMMITTED TO PROTECTING STUDENT INFORMATION

For security reasons you **must** provide your child's **Ontario Education Number (OEN)** when contacting HSTS. Once your child has been assigned their OEN (which will be on their first report card), you can access their transportation information after you sign in to the Parent Portal [@haltonbus.ca](http://haltonbus.ca). As new students will not have this OEN at the beginning of the school year, if you have not received a communication from HSTS, student transportation information must be obtained from your child's school.

Have Questions?

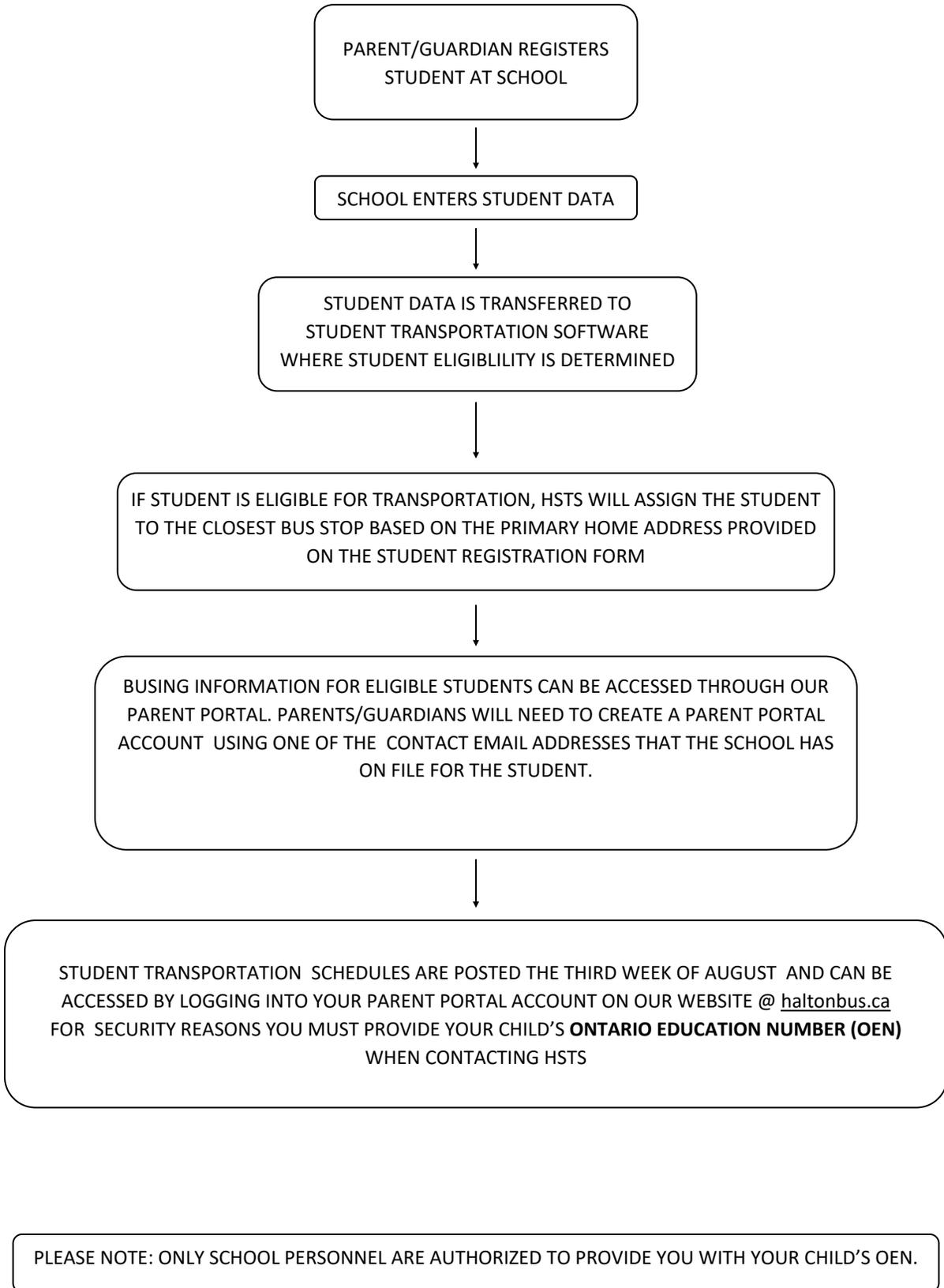


Go to haltonbus.ca where you will find helpful information such as:

- Transportation Policy and Procedures
- Bus Delays/Cancellations
- Bus Company Contact Information
- How to stay informed when transportation services are cancelled
- Frequently Asked Questions



HOW TRANSPORTATION IS SET UP FOR YOUR CHILD



Visit www.haltonbus.ca for more information or email transportation@haltonbus.ca



ATTENTION PARENTS!

IS YOUR CHILD A FIRST TIME BUS RIDER?

Make your child's first Bus Ride fun!

COME TO OUR FIRST-TIME RIDER SAFETY PROGRAM

(Held annually at the end of August at secondary schools throughout Halton)

Ride a school bus with your child and view our school bus safety video,
"Buzzy the Bee's Safety Certificate"

This spring, visit haltonbus.ca under the safety menu to find out which locations will be hosting the event and to access the online registration form!

Sponsored by Halton Student Transportation Services and Halton School Bus Operators



PARENTS/GUARDIANS

If your kindergarten child is eligible for transportation, they will be automatically assigned to a bus.

- Busing information can be accessed starting the 3rd week of August through our Parent Portal.
- Parents/guardians need to create a parent portal account (if you don't already have one) using one of the email addresses that the school has on file as a contact for the student.
- You'll be able to sign up for delay or cancellation notification emails for your child's bus routes.

