



# Safety in Schools Week June 11th to 15th 2007

## Agency

### Public Transport Authority

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Public Transport  
Authority

**Activity Title**      **Public Transport – Your Rights and Responsibilities**

## Curriculum Framework Activity Outcomes

Learning Area	Learning Outcome	Specific Learning
Health and Physical Education	Knowledge and Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students understand by practising safe and responsible habits when using public transport, they can enhance the journey for themselves and others.</li> </ul>
	Attitude and Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify consequences of safe and unsafe behaviour associated with travelling on public transport.</li> </ul>
	Self-Management Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students show their personal beliefs and values when using public transport responsibly, so the journey for others is enhanced.</li> </ul>
	Interpersonal Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students use communication and cooperation when working with others on learning experiences based on public transport.</li> </ul>
Study of Society	Investigation, Communication and Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inquiry based learning and promotion of open discussion.</li> </ul>
	Active Citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students demonstrate understanding that certain rights and responsibilities accompany the use of public transport, reflected and supported by Transperth rules and regulations.</li> </ul>
	Place and Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the relationship between people and their environment and the need for public transport.</li> </ul>

## Phases of Development

Late Childhood (Years 5-8)

## Activity Resources Required

You will require a copy of the 'Rights and Responsibilities Code' for using public transport services (included below).

## Procedure

1. List the reasons why people use public transport on the blackboard.
2. In groups, students discuss what they expect of the train service and the Transperth staff. Try using a 'Hot Potato' exercise to brainstorm ideas and list them eg. train to arrive on time, to be clean and comfortable, to safely arrive at your destination.
3. In groups discuss what students expect of other passengers. Brainstorm ideas and list them.
4. In groups discuss what students expect of themselves. Brainstorm ideas and list them.  
*(Alternatively, allocate different discussion topics to different groups)*
5. Review the resource - 'Rights and Responsibilities Code' that has been developed by staff at the Public Transport Authority. Use it as a discussion tool. Do the students' ideas correlate with that of the staff from Transperth?
6. Brainstorm behaviours that students have witnessed whilst travelling on the train (bullying, vandalism etc). Discuss how this makes the students feel. What are the potential safety consequences of these behaviours? Try creating a 'Y Chart' for students to understand what anti-social behaviour looks like, feels like and sounds like.
7. Discuss what the students can do if a situation arises whilst they are on a train (Change carriages, press the emergency button, ask a fellow passenger for assistance, locate a Transit Guard, use a mobile phone to call the number listed above the emergency button).
8. Discuss the fact that even after an incident has occurred, students can call and report an incident to the Transperth Comment Line on 13 16 08.
9. Discuss the following questions:
  - What types of incidents would you report?
  - What incidents should be reported and why?
  - What stops people from reporting incidents?
  - How could we encourage more reporting of incidents?

Send your feedback to the Community Education Officer at: [therighttrack@pta.wa.gov.au](mailto:therighttrack@pta.wa.gov.au)

### **Rights and Responsibilities Code:**

#### **When using your public transport services:**

- Buy a correct ticket for travel.
- Do not litter, graffiti or damage your trains, buses and stations.
- Respect other people by not yelling, swearing or acting in an anti-social way.
- Do not consume alcohol, drugs, solvents or other illicit substances.
- Do not intimidate other passengers by physically or verbally threatening them.

#### **Transit Guards have similar powers to police. This means that:**

- Transit Guards have the right to ask you for your name, address and date of birth.
- Transit Guards have the right to make arrests.
- Transit Guards have access to the Police central computer and will check your details.
- Refusing to provide your details or supplying false details is an offence that may result in arrest.

## Community Links

#### **How could the school involve the local community in Safety in Schools Week?**

- Contact the Community Education Officer to book the FREE Right Track education program designed for schools that utilise the train line. The program is centred on real life experiences and the 'cold, hard facts' of anti-social behaviour on the train line. It is written by teachers and slots well into existing course material.
- Based on the needs of your school, include public transport safety tips in your school newsletter and at school assemblies.
- Conduct a 'station tour' of your local train station, looking for features such as the toilets, ticket machines, the emergency button, a Transit Guard booth and the yellow line.

#### **How could the school involve parents and seniors in Safety in School Week?**

- Create a 'Travel Safe to School' group, where students, their friends and parents catch public transport together to school.
- Publish the student's findings on 'Rights and Responsibilities' in your school newsletter.

## Policy and Procedures

#### **Are you aware of the School's written Health and Safety Policy? If not: -**

- Check with administration
- Refer to the Education Department's Risk Management Policy
- Visit the Kidsafe WA website for guidelines [www.kidsafewa.com.au](http://www.kidsafewa.com.au)

#### **Do you have safety structures and procedures in place? For example:**

- Develop a 'plan of attack' for teachers conducting 'Bus Duty' (ie. experienced teachers or the same teachers daily).
- Get the students to develop your own school's 'Rights and Responsibilities' for using public transport that is consistently supported through your school's policies and procedures.
- Support these plans through communication in newsletters, school assemblies and staff bulletins.

## Other Resources Available

Visit the Public Transport Authority website at [www.pta.wa.gov.au](http://www.pta.wa.gov.au) or the Transperth website for a Journey Planner, access to online timetables and maps, as well as additional educational materials: [www.transperth.wa.gov.au](http://www.transperth.wa.gov.au)