October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Respectful Relationships and Behaviour – Our Expectations Beyond the School Gates

At Rossett School, we are committed to creating an environment where every student feels safe, respected and valued. Our Respectful Relationships and Behaviour Policy sets out the high standards of behaviour we expect from all members of our school community.

We would like to remind students and families that these expectations do not stop at the school gates.

The same standards of behaviour apply when students are travelling to and from school, including on school buses, coaches, taxis and other forms of school transport, as well as at bus stops and while waiting for or boarding transport.

School transport is an extension of the school environment. Students are expected to behave in a way that keeps themselves and others safe, treats everyone with dignity and reflects positively on our school community.

Our 5 Rs

- **Respectful –** We speak and behave towards others with courtesy and kindness. We respect other students, staff, members of the public, drivers and transport property.
- **Responsible –** We take responsibility for our actions and understand that our behaviour can affect the safety and wellbeing of others. We follow the instructions of transport staff and behave safely.
- **Ready –** We are ready to learn and ready to travel safely. This means being prepared, following the rules of the transport provider and making sensible choices.
- **Resilient –** We manage difficult situations appropriately. We do not respond to disagreements, teasing or conflict through aggression, intimidation, threats or inappropriate behaviour.
- **Reflective –** We think about the impact of our actions, listen when concerns are raised and learn from our mistakes.

What does this mean in practice?

- Follow the instructions of the driver and any member of staff.
- Remain seated and behave safely throughout the journey.
- Speak to others appropriately and respectfully.
- Avoid behaviour that could distract the driver or put others at risk.
- Respect the vehicle and other people's property.
- Keep hands, feet and objects to themselves.
- Not use threatening, intimidating, discriminatory or abusive language or behaviour.
- Not engage in bullying, harassment or unwanted physical contact.
- Use mobile phones and other devices appropriately and in accordance with school expectations.
- Behave appropriately at bus stops and while waiting for transport.
- Remember that behaviour towards other students on the journey may have an impact on their experience of school.

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Importantly, online behaviour is also included where it relates to school relationships or behaviour on school transport. This includes messages, group chats, photographs, videos or social media activity that causes harm, distress or disruption to members of our school community.

What happens if expectations are not met?

We always encourage students to make positive choices and resolve issues appropriately. However, where behaviour falls below our expectations, we will take concerns seriously and respond in line with our behaviour policy.

- A conversation with the student and an opportunity to reflect on their behaviour.
- Contact with parents/carers.
- Restorative conversations or actions.
- School-based sanctions in line with our behaviour policy.
- Meetings with parents/carers and relevant staff.
- Involvement of the transport provider or local authority where appropriate.
- Restrictions or removal of access to school transport where behaviour presents a safety concern or where this is determined to be an appropriate consequence.
- More serious school sanctions, including suspension, where behaviour meets the threshold for such action.

Serious incidents will be dealt with proportionately and on an individual basis. The fact that an incident occurs away from the school site does not mean that it is outside the school's responsibility to address it, particularly where it involves our students, affects the school community or has a clear connection to school.

Working together

We ask parents and carers to support us by talking to their children about these expectations and reinforcing the importance of safe, respectful behaviour when travelling to and from school.

Our school transport should be a safe environment for everyone. Students should never have to feel worried, intimidated or unsafe on their journey to or from school.

We want our students to understand that the 5 R's are not simply rules for the classroom — they are values that should guide how we conduct ourselves wherever we are representing Rossett School.

By being Respectful, Responsible, Ready, Resilient and Reflective, we can ensure that our school community remains a safe, positive and supportive place for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain the high standards we expect from all Rossett students.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Colbourne
Business & Operations Manager

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