At Umina Beach Public School, we understand that getting your child home safely after school is a priority, and we strive to ensure that all students who travel by bus have a smooth and secure journey. Below, is an outline of procedures and expectations for children who catch the bus home from school.

**Applying for a bus pass:**

School travel passes can be used for free travel to and from school. Depending on where you are travelling, you may receive a free school travel pass, School Opal card or both. Parents and carers can apply online for a school travel pass using the following link: [**https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/applyNow**](https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/applyNow)

**Bus Schedule and Timings**

The current Busways timetable is available here. School buses are expected to depart from the school premises at set times in the afternoon:

* Bus No. 2528: approximate departure time: 3.35 pm
* Bus No. 50: approximate departure time: 3.35 pm
* Bus No.54: approximate departure time: 3.50 pm

A copy of the current busways timetable is included on the following page, which was last updated in Nov 2024. Parents are recommended to regularly check the[**Busways website**](https://pw-uat.busways.com.au/sites/default/files/school_timetables/Umina_Beach_Public_School.pdf) for important updates. Should Busways make any changes to bus routes or bus times, this will be communicated by the school to all parents via the school’s communication channels. Parents can also check the [**Umina Beach Public School website on our transport**](https://umina-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/location-and-transport.html)page for further school-related information.

Students need to be ready in bus lines, under the K-2 COLA, at the end of the school day. A teacher is scheduled on duty each day to assist students in the afternoon. For children new to bus travel, teachers can walk your child over to bus lines, or assign a bus buddy, until they feel confident to independently do so. If your child is unsure about the exact location of their bus line, the duty teacher can provide guidance and reassurance.

From time to time, the buses may be late or delayed. If the school is alerted to any delay in advance, the school will use the Sentral Parent Portal to inform parents as quickly as possible.

**Bus Etiquette and Behaviour**

All students who travel via Transport NSW services must behave in a manner that ensures both their comfort and safety and that of other passengers. At the start of each year, all students participate in a “bus travel” lesson which clearly outlines expected behaviour. This includes:

* staying seated during the ride,
* talking quietly and being respectful to other passengers,
* not distracting the bus driver or interfering with the operation of the bus and
* following the bus driver's instructions at all times.

At the start of each year, parents/carers of children who may catch the bus are asked to read, discuss and sign a bus behaviour contract, which outlines the [***Transport NSW Student Code of Conduct*.**](https://transportnsw.info/student-code-conduct)Not following these expectations may result in the withdrawal of school travel pass.

**Use of mobile phones/digital devices**

The department of education has clear expectations relating to mobile phone use at school. However, students waiting for the bus may be permitted to use their mobile phone to text/contact parents after seeking permission from the duty teacher to do so.

**Older siblings**

Should an older sibling (e.g., high school student) enter the school premises to catch the bus with their sibling, they must follow the school’s bus-line expectations and show expected bus behaviour.

**Parent/carer support**

We encourage parents/carers to discuss bus safety and behaviour expectations with their child regularly. Encouraging your child to follow the Transport NSW code of conduct will help ensure a positive and safe bus experience for all.

*For any questions or further assistance, please contact the school office.*

**Umina Beach Public School**
**0243 411630**

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