



## CHILD CHECK

Thoroughly check the school vehicle immediately following each school drop-off and following the last drop-off for each school, as soon as it may be done safely, to ensure that all students have disembarked.

Be sure to check on and under every seat. Warm and bulky winter clothing can make it more likely for children to fall asleep on route. Diligent checks are of the utmost importance as children are highly vulnerable to cold weather injuries.

## PURPLE BAND

The Purple Band is a visual reminder that a child with a purple tag on the handle of their backpack requires the driver's special attention and must be met by a guardian at the stop.

If you notice any Kinder students without Purple Bands, please inform the school or bus company, who will arrange for a new band to be provided.



## WINTER BEST PRACTICES

To avoid slips, keep the area around your bus as clear from snow and ice as possible. Wear proper footwear and take short steps or “shuffle” on ice or snow when you are doing your walkaround check. Keep bus steps clear of snow and ice build-up.

Clear snow and ice from the vehicle, paying special attention to lights, windows, mirrors, stop arm and signage. Check the back of your bus between runs during snowy conditions. Van drivers should ensure that the ‘School Children Being Transported’ lettering is visible on the rear of the vehicle.

**Top up windshield washer fluid and ensure heaters, defrosters and wipers are working properly.**

Keep the fuel level above half full to avoid condensation and freeze-up.

**Drive with extra caution and adjust your speed to the road conditions, allowing for more stopping distance on wet, snow-covered and icy roads.**

If you are running late or are unable to access a bus stop due to road conditions, keep your Dispatcher informed. It is important for dispatch to post delays, especially during inclement weather.

## STUDENT SAFETY

**Remind students to wait well back from the roadway in snowy and icy conditions. Approach bus stops with caution and watch for children playing on and around snowbanks.**

In extreme cold, allow a bit of extra time at the bus stop at pick-up to ensure that nobody is left behind.

**Remind students to hold the handrail as they board and exit the bus to avoid slipping. Take a second look as students exit to make sure they are clear of the vehicle and that no clothing, bags or personal items are caught in the door before closing it and leaving the stop.**

