



# Bellerive FCJ Catholic College

A Catholic Voluntary Academy

17<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Planned Strike Action by Arriva bus drivers**

At the time of writing, the planned strike action is expected to take place on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> October (last day of this half term), Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October (first Monday of half term break) and 30<sup>th</sup> Oct (first day back to school following half term). This will affect students who travel to school by Arriva buses.

There will be no impact on those who travel to school by the BR1-4 buses. However, these buses are running at capacity and so additional students who might normally travel by Arriva buses cannot use the BR services on these days. To ensure that students are aware of this, those who normally travel on the BR buses and who have not purchased a travel pass will be issued with a temporary pass to allow them to board the bus. This is not a payment pass.

This is to ensure that there is no overcrowding on the buses. The drivers will be instructed to only allow those with the purchased school bus pass or the school issued temporary passes on in the morning. School staff supervise the loading of the buses in the afternoon and will ensure that the buses are running at a safe capacity.

For those students who normally travel by Arriva buses for their journey to school, please ensure that you make alternative travel arrangements for the school days mentioned above. Any absence due to the bus strike will be marked as unauthorised.

On these days only, we will permit students to carry a charged mobile phone to and from school as we appreciate that young people could experience significant delays on their journeys and will need to keep parents informed. Their phones must be switched off and in their bags and not brought out at all whilst on school premises. Students found to be contravening this will have their phones confiscated.

Please ensure that you keep in touch with the Arriva and Merseytravel website as the situation may change as talks continue. The school is open on both school days of the strike and learning will continue.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N. Howlett

Headteacher

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