



GEORGE  
WATSON'S  
— COLLEGE —

# SCHOOL BUS TRAVEL GUIDE

Session 2025/26

# Welcome

Dear Parents

Thank you for taking the time to look at our School Bus Travel Guide. This guide sets out the wide range of travel options available to our pupils at George Watson's College. Many pupils continue to speak to us about the need for sustainable travel options, and whilst many currently travel via public transport, we recognise that it is just not feasible for all. As such, the school bus service is designed to help.

We continue to work with Vectare, a specialist school transport management software provider. Their system is designed to provide parents with as much information as possible, right at your fingertips and from anywhere in the world. All bookings, for all routes, can be made via the dedicated transport booking system [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk) From here, you can **Sign Up** and then click **Book Now**

This website allows you to enter your postcode, find your closest bus stop and see bespoke travel information for your child's journey to school. Bookings can be made 24/7, meaning that if you need to leave early for work one morning, or you are running late, and you would like your child to travel on the school bus service as a one-off, you can still make a booking. Parents will be charged for the use of the school buses through their Extras Account (the account used by the School to bill parents for all charges other than the school fees).

Bookings can be made in a matter of minutes, and it is our expectation that pupils must always have a booking prior to travel. This helps to ensure that we manage capacity and a vehicle never becomes overloaded. When pupils board the service, they will continue to

swipe on with their pupil card and from the **My Account** section of the website, you will be able to see whether your child has boarded. From here, and when the buses are running, you will also be able to see live tracking. Please note that there might be a slight delay in this tracking (caused by mobile phone signal provision), so we continue to recommend that you are at the bus stop five minutes before the scheduled bus departure time.

Please note that if a pupil has a booking, they will be charged for using the school bus service regardless of whether they travel. Bookings may be cancelled without penalty until 9am on the day prior to the day of travel. If bookings are cancelled after this time, pupils will be charged the full fare. This is to ensure that we better manage the capacity on the bus services.

I hope that you are able to find a travel solution that works for you and your child. If you need any further assistance, or you would like to discuss travel options from areas not currently served by our school bus network, please contact us via the school transport website at [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk) and we will be more than happy to assist.

With best wishes



James Mills  
Bursar



## Five Star Service

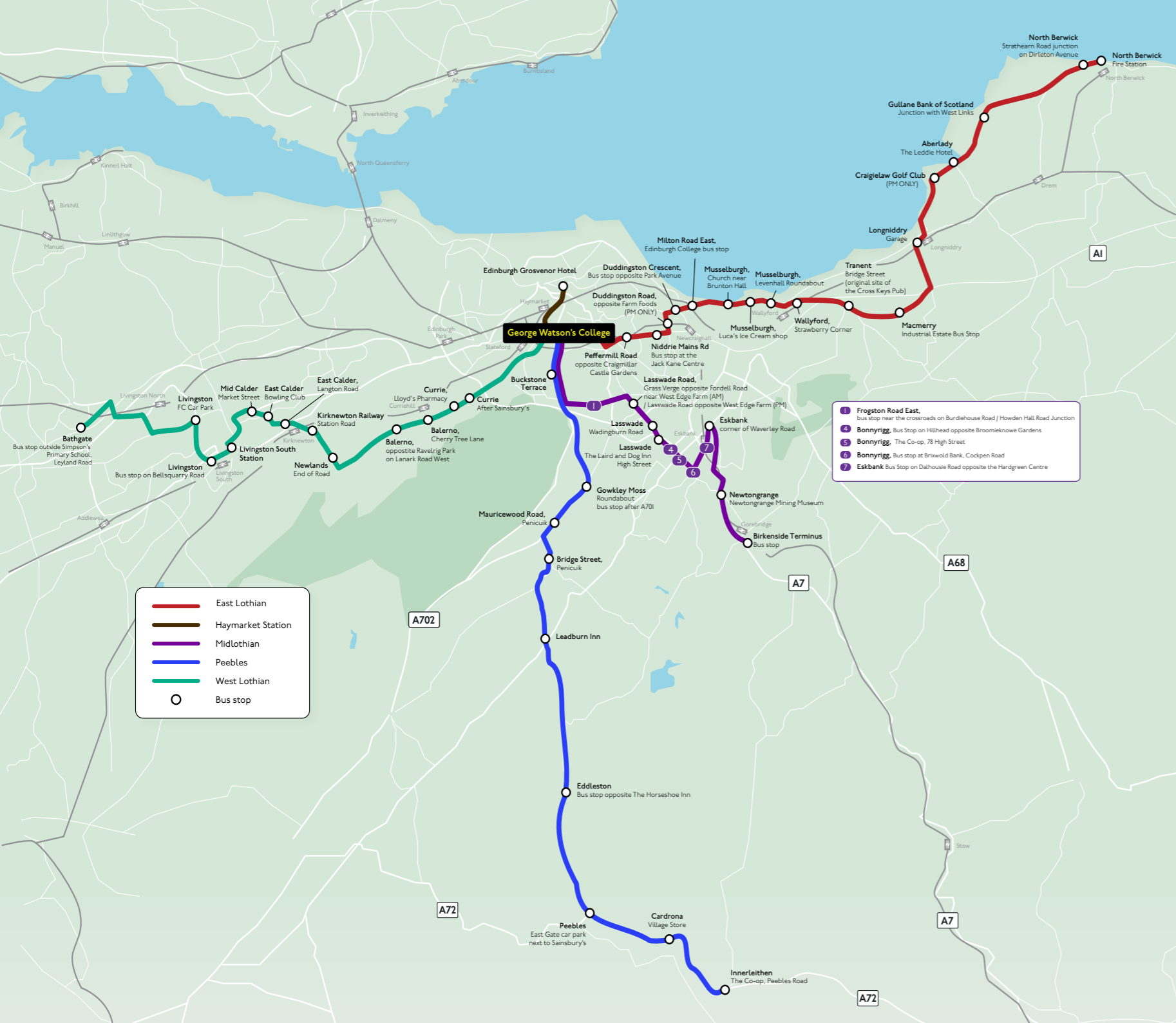
All of our vehicles are modern, easy-to-board and are operated by the school or our approved operators. This means that they are all regularly maintained to the highest standard, giving you peace of mind that your child is travelling in safety.

We use dedicated drivers who work on the same route. These drivers get to know the pupils and are subject to a Disclosure Scotland check and full MiDAS/CPC training.

We offer complete flexibility to allow parents to book for a single journey, a term, or an entire school year. You can book journeys at any time throughout the year, so it is simple to book an extra journey or arrange travel for a visiting friend.

Our school bus network consists of 48 bus stops, with an interchange station at Edinburgh Haymarket Railway Station. We want to offer you a travel solution that works for you and your child, so if you need any assistance working out the best route to school then please do get in touch.

It takes less than 30 seconds to find your nearest bus stop online, and booking takes only a few minutes, so all of the information you need to arrange travel for your child really is at your fingertips. To find your nearest stop, or to book your child's travel, visit [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk)



### Booking System

All bookings for our school bus service must now be made via our online booking system, which can be accessed at [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk) The website allows you to book travel 24/7 from anywhere in the world, meaning that if you need to leave early for work one morning, or you are running late, and would like your child to use the school bus as a one-off, you can make a booking right up until the time of departure. Before bookings can be made, pupils must be registered to use the service and agree to the **Terms & Conditions**. Payments for the service will continue to be made via the Extras Account.

### National Rail Connections

Our bus service integrates with local and national train networks at Edinburgh Haymarket. Pupils can walk out of the station and board the minibus service at the Hilton Grosvenor Hotel.

If you would like more detailed, bespoke information about potential journey opportunities that involve travel by rail and then the school bus, please do not hesitate to contact us by using the **Contact Us** form on [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk) We will be able to assist with timetable and journey planning information.

# Timetables

A penalty charge of £1 will be added to all journeys that are booked through the Driver App and are not booked in advance.

## East Lothian

Fare	Stop	Pick-up Time (AM)	Drop-off Time (PM)
£5.79	North Berwick – Fire Station	06:40	17:22
£5.79	North Berwick – Stratheam Road junction on Dirleton Avenue	06:40	17:21
£5.65	Gullane – Bank of Scotland Junction with West Links (first and last bus stop on the route during Session 2022/23)	06:50	17:15
£5.65	Aberlady – The Leddie Hotel	07:00	17:08
£5.65	Craigielaw Golf Club (PM Only)	-	17:05
£5.65	Longniddry - Garage	07:05	17:00
£5.40	Macmerry - Industrial Estate Bus Stop	07:25	16:50
£5.40	Tranent - Bridge Street (original site of the Cross Keys Pub)	07:30	16:45
£5.26	Wallyford , Strawberry Corner bus stop	07:32	16:43
£5.21	Musselburgh - Levenhall Roundabout	07:35	16:40
£5.21	Musselburgh - Luca's Ice Cream shop	07:40	16:33
£5.21	Musselburgh - Church near Brunton Hall	07:45	16:30
£3.80	Milton Road East - Edinburgh College bus stop (PM ONLY)	-	16:20
£3.80	Duddingston Crescent - Bus stop opposite Park Avenue (PM ONLY)	-	16:16
£3.80	Duddingston Road - Bus stop opposite Farmfoods (PM ONLY)	-	16:13
£3.80	Niddrie Mains Road - Bus stop at the Jack kane Centre	08:00	16:12
£3.80	Peffermill Road - Bus stop opposite Craigmillar Castle Gardens	08:05	16:10
-	George Watson's College	08:15	15:45

## Peebles

A penalty charge of £1 will be added to all journeys that are booked through the Driver App and are not booked in advance.

Fare	Stop	Pick-up Time (AM)	Drop-off Time (PM)
£6.17	Innerleithen - The Co-op, Peebles Road	07:00	16:55
£6.04	Cardrona - Village Store	07:08	16:45
£5.90	Peebles - East Gate car park next to Sainsbury's	07:18	16:37
£5.53	Eddleston - Bus stop opposite The Horseshoe Inn	07:28	16:30
£5.21	Leadburn Inn	07:36	16:22
£5.01	Bridge Street, Penicuik	07:42	16:18
£5.01	Mauricewood Road, Penicuik	07:46	16:16
£4.62	Gowkley Moss Roundabout - Bus stop after the roundabout on the A701	07:50	16:10
£2.58	Buckstone Terrace	08:05	16:00
-	George Watson's College	08:15	15:45

## West Lothian

Fare	Stop	Pick-up Time (AM)	Drop-off Time (PM)
£5.74	Bathgate - Bus stop outside Simpson's Primary School, Leyland Road	06:55	17:00
£5.42	Livingston - Livingston FC Car Park	07:10	16:45
£5.42	Bus stop on Bellsquarry Road	07:14	16:42
£5.42	Livingston South Station	07:17	16:40
£5.17	Mid Calder - Bus stop on Market Street opposite the Fork & Field	07:25	16:30
£5.11	East Calder Bowling Club	07:27	16:28
£5.11	East Calder - Langton Road	07:30	16:25
£4.05	Kirknewton Railway/Station Road	07:35	16:20
£4.05	Newlands - End of Road	07:40	16:15
£3.79	Balerno - Opposite Ravelrig Park on Lanark Road West	07:45	16:10
£3.79	Balerno - Bus Stop (Cherry Tree Lane)	07:48	16:07
£3.66	Currie - Bus Stop (Lloyd's Pharmacy)	07:49	16:06
£3.66	Currie - Bus Stop (just after Sainsbury's)	07:50	16:05
-	George Watson's College	08:15	15:45

1

Go to [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk) to locate your nearest bus stop and book ad-hoc or regular travel

2

Make your booking and get instant confirmation

3

Contact our Transport Department via the website if you have any questions

# Midlothian

A penalty charge of £1 will be added to all journeys that are booked through the Driver App and are not booked in advance.

Fare	Stop	Pick-up Time (AM)	Drop-off Time (PM)
£3.92	Birkenside Terminus - Bus stop	07:15	16:42
£3.92	Newtongrange - Bus stop at Newtongrange Mining Museum	07:17	16:39
£3.68	Eskbank - Corner of Waverley Road	07:30	16:27
£3.68	Eskbank - Bus stop on Dalhousie Road opposite the Hardengreen Centre	07:34	16:23
£3.68	Bonnyrigg - Brixwold Bank, Cockpen Road	07:38	16:19
£3.68	Bonnyrigg - The Co-op, 78 High Street	07:40	16:17
£3.68	Bonnyrigg - Bus stop on Hillhead opposite Broomieknowe Gardens	07:42	16:15
£3.68	Lasswade - The Laird and Dog Inn, High Street	07:44	16:12
£3.68	Lasswade - Wadingburn Road	07:47	16:10
£3.49	Lasswade Road - Grass Verge opposite Fordell Road near West Edge Farm (AM) and bus stop on Lasswade Road opposite West Edge Farm (PM)	07:52	16:05
£2.88	Frogston Road East - bus stop near the crossroads on Burdiehouse Road / Howden Hall Road Junction	07:57	16:00
-	George Watson's College	08:15	15:45

# Haymarket Station Shuttle

Fare	Stop	Pick-up Time (AM)	Drop-off Time (PM)
£2.04	Edinburgh Grosvenor Hotel	08:15	16:00
-	George Watson's College	08:30	15:45

The school minibus is parked outside the Grosvenor Hotel in Grosvenor Street from 8am. The minibus will remain there until 8.15am (to accommodate the East Lothian train). The minibus arrives at the Senior School War Memorial Car Park at approximately 8.30am.

The minibus returns to Haymarket Station after school, leaving the Senior School War Memorial Car Park at 3.45pm. The arrival time at Haymarket is approximately 4pm. The minibus will drop off pupils at the bottom of Dalry Road on the return journey. Occasionally, we may use taxis for the return journey to Haymarket if the minibuses are booked for extra-curricular activities.

The service has a dedicated mobile phone (07515 999 729) to enable parents or pupils to text the driver if they are absent or if their train is running late.





# Terms & Conditions

1. This agreement is made between all pupils who travel on the school bus service, their parents and George Watson's College in order to provide safe and comfortable journeys for all passengers.
2. All pupils and parents must read and agree to adhere to the rules set out in the '**George Watson's College School Bus Service - Code of Conduct for Pupils**'.
3. Arrangements for pupils' journeys to and from school are the responsibility of their parents. To assist with discharging this responsibility, George Watson's College provides a school bus service.
4. Transport on the school bus service must be arranged in advance and paid for via the Extras Account.
5. Pupils will be charged for using the service regardless of whether they travel. Bookings may be cancelled without penalty until 9am on the day prior to the day of travel.
6. Bookings are to be made online via the online booking system at [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk)
7. Each pupil, for whom an online booking has been made, will be added to a passenger list detailing the service they travel on, their bus stop and what travel has been booked.
8. It is the parents responsibility to inform Vectare, via the **Contact Us** form on [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk) if they no longer wish for their child to use the school bus service.
9. If you wish for your child to use the school bus service on an ad hoc basis, or to vary the details of their travel as a one-off, you should register and book a seat on [gwc.vectare.co.uk](http://gwc.vectare.co.uk)
10. No pupil is permitted to travel on the school bus service if they are not pre-booked for the bus that they wish to travel on. Other arrangements for journeys to and from school must be made by them or their parents.
11. Good conduct is required at all times. Bullying, shouting, use of offensive language, dropping litter, playing music without headphones, or any other misbehaviour is not permitted.
12. Except when embarking or disembarking, or when asked to move to a different seat in accordance with condition 13, all passengers must remain seated with their seatbelts fastened correctly.
13. Whilst on a school bus, all passengers must follow the instructions of the bus driver or member of George Watson's College staff, who may require them to pick up litter, desist from certain actions or to move to a different seat.
14. Bus drivers and George Watson's College cannot take responsibility for ensuring pupils get off the bus at the correct stop.
15. Pupil ID cards must be carried at all times and used to swipe on and off the school bus to register their journey.
16. Failure to comply with these conditions may result in disciplinary action, including temporary or permanent withdrawal of permission to use the school bus service.
17. In the event of a cancellation of a school bus service due to circumstances such as bad weather, a parent must be contactable to ensure appropriate alternative travel/ collection arrangements are in place.
18. George Watson's College aims to ensure that school buses run on time. However, traffic conditions or unforeseen circumstances may cause delays. Drivers will not wait past the scheduled departure time at any bus stop.

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Timetable, route and fare information is correct as of December 2025. This guide is produced for information only. We cannot be held liable for any errors or omissions or for any loss or damages caused, howsoever arising and including consequential losses, as a result of the use of this School Bus Travel Guide. Please note that school bus routes are subject to change.



**George Watson's College**

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