

13th September 2021

Work hard. Be kind.

Dear Parents/Carer,

Ref: School Bus (985) Capacity

As you may be aware, Stage Coach has reduced the number of buses on the 985 bus route to two double deckers. I met with them on Friday afternoon and raised concerns that this may not be enough to ensure all of our pupils are able to use the service. According to their numbers, two double deckers is sufficient for all pupils with a bus pass to be accommodated.

However, some of the space on the bus is for standing passengers, rather than seated. I know this is not ideal and I hope we will be able to resolve this moving forward. In the meantime, if your child is in year 10 or 11, please could you ask them to support their younger peers by allowing them to sit in any available seats.

I have spoken with Stage Coach and Devon County Council about that fact that some pupils last week were not able to get on the buses. We want to work with them to gain clarity about the demand for spaces to ensure that this does not happen again. Therefore, if your child **does not have a bus pass entitlement but wishes to take the 985 bus**, please could you complete [this online form](#) by Friday 17th September. This will help us establish any need for capacity in addition to the children who have allocated bus passes. If your child does have a bus pass, there is no action needed.

If you have any questions or concerns about the school service, please contact Terrie-Anne Jukes at TAJ@stjamesexeter.co.uk who will be happy to help.

Thank you for your support.



Lindsay Skinner
Headteacher