

# Riding The Bus In Sub-Zero Temperatures

As the temperature drops well below zero and the snow starts to fall, it is important to remember that school buses are not impregnable. Sometimes they don't start. Sometimes they break down. Sometimes they get stuck. Bus students need to be prepared. All children from Kindergarten to Grade 12 should be dressed appropriately — this may include gloves, a toque, winter jacket, snow pants if possible, and winter boots. This way, in the event of a breakdown or any other unforeseen delay, you can rest assured that your child will be safe and comfortable until the bus is on its way again.

How will you be notified if the bus is not running, or if it is going to be late? In the event that your bus is cancelled you will be contacted by our Power Announce System (text/email/phone call) or your driver may contact you by phone. Additionally, if all buses are cancelled the local radio stations will be contacted. Also, bus cancellations and delays are posted on our Chinook's Edge website at [www.chinooksedge.ab.ca/Transportation/Route Delays and Cancellations](http://www.chinooksedge.ab.ca/Transportation/Route%20Delays%20and%20Cancellations). If your bus is running more than 15 minutes late you will be contacted by Power Announcement (text/email/phone call). Please ensure your contact information is up-to-date with the schools.

What should students do if the bus does not pick them up? Parents should ensure that their children have a plan in the event that the bus does not arrive to pick them up. Children must be aware of how long to wait at their stop before returning home or going to their alternate location. Having a plan in place is very important for safety when parents have to leave for work prior to the arrival of the school bus.

The same goes for the end of the day. It is important to make sure that students can get into their homes if parents are not there.

Thank you for taking a moment to talk with your children about the different possibilities involved in riding a school bus. Being prepared ensures everyone's safety.

