



23 October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Littles 466 School Transport Service

We have recently been informed of some parental concerns regarding the behaviour of a select few students using the Littles 466 school bus service which currently runs from Ilkeston to Heanor Gate Spencer Academy, via this route -

[Littles Bus Timetable Route 466](#).

The Littles 466 is a council contracted service, provided to assist students attending a school or college who meet their specific eligibility criteria [School transport - Derbyshire County Council](#). It is not funded by, managed or staffed by Heanor Gate Spencer Academy, and therefore, we are not able to influence the passengers which they carry or route which they service.

At present, there are 19 students who qualify to use this bus to travel to and from school. In response to the increase in behavioural concerns and risk to safety of passengers, Derbyshire County Council have indicated that they may reduce this route (omitting parts of it) and/or no longer allow fee paying passengers to use the service. We, at Heanor Gate, appreciate that this is less convenient for many students and would prefer to see all students to be able to continue to make use of the service and feel safe and comfortable whilst they do so.

Students have been made aware of the behaviour expectations whilst travelling on the service, which are:

- Remain seated, or standing still, holding onto the handrails at all times
- Do not shout, raise your voice, or cause unnecessary distractions and commotion
- Do not throw objects or food/drink items
- E-cigarettes are strictly prohibited
- Do not interfere with another student's clothing, possessions or their person
- Do not distract the driver and to treat them (and other students) with courtesy and respect

Please ensure that your child is committed to adhering to these rules, otherwise they will be identified using the bus CCTV and no longer permitted to travel on a permanent basis.

Should your child prefer to use another service, the alternative public transport services provided by Trent Barton are [Trentbarton Services to HGSA - Oct 2025](#). These are correct at time of writing, though please check their [website](#) for live updates before travelling. Students can travel cost-effectively for just £1.50 using the [Mango app](#) with their [B-line Card](#) entitlement.

We are committed to working with Derbyshire County Council and Littles to ensure our students travel safely and comfortably to school, and in doing so, we hope to preserve the Littles 466 service, both in terms of route and accessibility for all students. Please support us by relaying the importance of adhering to behavioural standards and the consequences of not doing so to your child.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Wright
Assistant Principal