



## **Alternative Transportation, Taxis, and Ride-Sharing Services Policy**

Many parents have expressed the desire to send ride-sharing services (e.g., Lyft, Uber) or taxis to provide rides to and from school for their children. Sometimes an individual other than a parent (e.g., a friend, neighbor, non-custodial relative, a best-friend's mother) is asked to pick up a child. There are many concerns about these practices, not least because they can involve children leaving school in vehicles whose drivers may not be known to the school, or even to the child. Of course, it is preferred that parents pick up their child personally and that at least one adult be at home (or other location) when the child arrives, but we also recognize that for a variety of reasons, circumstances may not always allow for that.

Therefore, putting the safety of our children first as always, but balancing the modern needs of parents, the school will allow a child to enter a car driven by someone other than a parent/guardian at the request of the parent/guardian, according to the following guidelines:

1. If the child is to be transported by a private individual:
  - a. A custodial parent/guardian must notify the school in advance of the identity of the person and relationship to the child (aunt, friend of parent, etc.) and the days on which the driver will be allowed to pick up the student(s).
  - b. The parent/guardian must sign the attached permission slip/release form, requesting the school to allow the child to accept the ride.
  - c. If the arrangement for a ride cannot be made in advance (e.g., sudden illness, car problems, etc.), the parent/guardian must notify the school by telephone no later than noon of the day on which the ride is needed, to inform the school of the identity of the driver **and the reason for the emergency arrangement.** (Emergency arrangements will not be honored for more than five consecutive school days.)
  - d. The driver must present and identify him/herself to the school's departure supervisor and identify the child/children being picked up **BEFORE** the child enters the car. The school reserves the right at its discretion to require identification of the driver, including driver's license.
2. If a ride-sharing service or taxi is used:
  - a. The school must be notified in advance of the name of the service/cab company being used, the name of the driver if known, and the days on which the service will be used (e.g., "every day", "Thursdays", "Wednesday November 1, only" etc.).
  - b. The parent/guardian must sign the attached permission slip/release form, requesting the school to allow the child to use the service.
  - c. If the arrangement for a ride cannot be made in advance (e.g., sudden illness,



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- car problems, etc.), the parent/guardian must notify the school by telephone no later than noon of the day on which the ride is needed, to inform the school of the identity of the driver, the service to be used, and the reason for the emergency arrangement. (Emergency arrangements will not be honored for more than five consecutive school days.)
- d. The driver of the car must be informed of the name of the child/children to be picked up and must present him/herself to the departure supervisor, identifying the rider(s) BEFORE any child enters the car.
  - e. ONLY recognized ride-sharing services or taxi companies (Uber, Lyft, Chariot, Yellow, etc.) will be allowed to pick up children.
  - f. The school reserves the right at its discretion to require identification of the driver, including driver's license, taxi identification, etc.
3. NO CHILD will be allowed to enter a vehicle whose driver and company if all of the above conditions are not fulfilled. A child whose ride does not comply with these requirements will not be allowed to enter the car; the parent will be notified, and the child will be held at school for parental pick up.
4. The School will:
- a. Maintain a list of students for whom permissions to accept rides have been given;
  - b. When a driver identifies him/herself as present for a student, will verify that the driver is on the list and that the ride is authorized;
  - c. Make sure that the listed child(ren) enters into the authorized car.
  - d. Make sure that all children on the list have been picked up.
  - e. Take charge of any child on the list who is not picked up or who is not allowed to enter into a car for any reason, and notify parents/guardians that the child needs to be picked up.



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## PARENTAL REQUEST FOR TRANSPORTATION AND RELEASE

I/we \_\_\_\_\_, am/are custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) of the following student(s) at \_\_\_\_\_ school (the "school"):

[Insert name of students, collectively referred to here as "my Child":]

- f. \_\_\_\_\_
- g. \_\_\_\_\_
- h. \_\_\_\_\_
- i. \_\_\_\_\_

I/we hereby request that my Child accept transportation from school grounds from the following: \_\_\_\_\_

[insert name of individual and relationship to student(s), or name of service (e.g., Uber, Lyft, Yellow Cab, Chariot, etc.)]

driven by: \_\_\_\_\_

[insert name of driver if known]

on the following days: \_\_\_\_\_.

[e.g., "every day", "Thursdays," "Wednesday November 1", etc.]

I/we have read and agreed to all of the terms and conditions outlined above. I am aware of the risks inherent in allowing a child to use the above services and have knowingly accepted and assumed the risk of harm, including potential physical injury, on behalf of myself, any other parent/guardian of the listed child(ren) and on behalf of my child(ren), related to or arising from the use of this service.

I hereby give Child my permission to use of the above-described ride arrangement and I voluntarily request and give permission for School to allow Child to use this arrangement. In consideration of School's cooperation in this request, I further understand and agree to the following:

I understand and agree that the School is an operation of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, A Corporation Sole (the "Archdiocese"), and that the terms of this request, waiver and release extent to the Archdiocese and all of its affiliated entities, corporations, employees, agents, volunteers and assigns as well as the School.



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For myself and for Child, I agree to comply with any and all School or Archdiocesan rules and guidelines pertaining to this activity. I agree to direct Child, as well as any and all drivers to whom Child will be entrusted, to cooperate with and conform to the directions and instructions of the School or Archdiocesan personnel responsible for this activity.

I represent and warrant that I have authority to make, and am making, this request and enter into this waiver and release, on behalf of myself, my Child and any other parents/guardians of my Child.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, on behalf of myself, Child and any and all parents/guardians of Child, I hereby waive, release and discharge, and agree to defend, indemnify and hold the School and Archdiocese harmless from, any and all claims for damages for death, personal injury, loss or property damage which I or Child, or any other person, may have or which may hereafter accrue as a result in Child's participation in the activity described, whether or not caused by the negligence, (active or passive) of the Archdiocese or School. This waiver and release is intended to release and discharge in advance the promoters, sponsors, officials, leaders and The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, A Corporation Sole, and all of its or their affiliated entities and missions, officers, agents, employees, volunteers, attorneys, insurers and assigns, from any and all liability, except for that attributable to willful misconduct, arising out of or connected in any way with this activity.

I understand and agree that School personnel, in their sole discretion, may, but need not, refuse to allow a Child to enter a car if in their sole judgment, to do so would not be safe for Child. I further understand and agree that School reserves the right (but does not assume the obligation) not to allow a Child to enter any car or accept any transportation if all of the above terms and conditions have not been fulfilled to its satisfaction.

I understand and agree that this request, permission and waiver and release will remain in effect from the date signed until such time as it is revoked **in a writing signed by a custodial parent/guardian, and delivered to School.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 2

*Signature of both parents should be obtained, if possible.*