

School bus orientation day held for first-time riders

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Halton Student Transportation Services and local Halton school bus operators are encouraging parents of first-time riders in Halton to enrol in the upcoming School Bus Orientation Day training sessions.

The free safety training program is open to parents and students of both Halton school boards and will run at five separate locations across the region on Aug. 26, including sessions in both Georgetown and Acton.

"School Bus Orientation Day is a safety program provided by HSTS and the local school bus operators to assist parents and first time riders in understanding the importance of school bus safety," said Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS) in a release.

"Parents of all first-time riders are encouraged to

bring their children to the free sessions, which will feature a classroom presentation on school bus safety, including Off We Go! a special video on school bus safety and a demonstration on a school bus," it added.

In addition, the approximately hour-long sessions will include safety talks for parents and students by school bus company safety officers and bus drivers about safely getting on and off of the bus, proper behaviour on the bus, street-crossing guidelines and general school bus safety.

"A handout will be provided to all young riders with tips on school bus safety. Both HSTS and the school bus operators hope the orientation sessions will help students and their parents feel more comfortable riding a school bus before the first day of school," said HSTS.

The Georgetown sessions will begin at 9 a.m. at Georgetown District High School, while the Acton session will be held Acton District High School.

Other locations include Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School in Burlington, Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School in Oakville and Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School in Milton.

There will be multiple sessions at each location throughout the day. The first session at all locations is at 9 a.m. and the number of sessions will be determined by enrolment.

Parents wishing to register their youngsters should call the appropriate number below for their respective locations in order to secure preferred time slots. Georgetown: 905-877-2251 (First Student Canada) or Acton: 519-853-1550 (Tyler Transport Ltd.).

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