

Guidance to Parents Regarding the Use of Taxis for Student Transportation

At Taaleem Holdings P.J.S.C. (hereafter referred to as "Taaleem") schools, the health and safety of our students and their families are of paramount importance. This document outlines the requirements and recommended practices for the use of taxis when transporting students to and from school.

Taaleem recommends that students are dropped off or collected from school by a responsible adult, including parents, guardians, carers or school transport. In situations where students may need to use a taxi for transportation, it is advised that:

- **Early Years / Primary School students:** be accompanied by an authorised adult in a taxi.
- **Secondary students:** travel independently by taxi, if required, when the parent/guardian has expressly authorised it, subject to the school's safeguarding and campus procedures.

According to the UAE government regulations and best practices:

- **All passengers** in a car are required to wear seat belts including those sitting in the rear seat.
- Children **under four years of age must be seated in an approved child safety / booster seat.**
- It is recommended that **children under 130 cm in height use a child safety / booster seat** for added safety, in accordance with international best practices.
- Children **under the age of 12 should not travel unaccompanied in a taxi.**
- Front seat passengers must be **at least 145 cm tall and not younger than 10 years of age.**

While taxi operators prioritise passenger safety, it is important to note that children are particularly vulnerable when traveling alone. Parents who opt for their children to travel by taxi or other forms of public transportation do so at their own discretion and assume responsibility for their safety.

Schools are not responsible for the use of non-school bus transportation by students, as they do not have supervisory oversight over such journeys. The school's duty of care and supervision begins once the student enters the school premises. In these circumstances, the school reserves the right to regulate the admissibility of these vehicles, the use of appropriate drop-off pathways, and parking arrangements to ensure campus safety.

This document is issued as **guidance** to support parents and guardians in making informed decisions. It does not constitute a binding school policy, and where there is any inconsistency with applicable laws or regulatory requirements, the latter shall prevail.

Chief Executive Officer:

Signed by:

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Date of next review: August 2027