

Children and Young People Committee

Item 3: Petitions and Public Questions

PLEASE REINSTATE OUR SCHOOL BUSES - the SW05 and SW06 from Emma Merrells a local resident

At the time of publication this petition contained 222 signatures of which 57 were from local residents.

We are asking the council to reinstate the SW05 and SW06 school buses.

The “SW05” and “SW06” school buses have taken our children safely to school in Sawston for years. This summer a group of parents received bus passes for a new bus from a new stop.

This bus stop means some children are having to walk to the other end of the village.

The newly allocated bus route is 40-45 minutes long (20 minutes longer than it was previously). It goes backwards to other villages, before coming forwards again, to school.

The children allocated this bus were selected from a street in the village which is actually closest to the original stop where all other school children have been allocated a public 7A bus for free. This 7A bus will get all other school children to school in half the time; setting off later and arriving home earlier.

If the children on the newly allocated school bus choose to get this closer and faster public bus it will cost families £400 a year.

This decision means a group of randomly selected children will need to leave home half an hour earlier and will return home half an hour later than they did previously.

We don't want children missing vital rest and valued after-school time when their original buses were closer and faster to school. Nor do we want children allocated the 7A being late for school if the public service doesn't turn up or they can't get on due to it being at capacity.

The 7A bus will now only provide 14 seats to the general public. If the children allocated the SW01 want to pay for a faster journey, this will add to public capacity risking the bus being stretched to its limit.

We are asking Cambridgeshire County Council Education Transport Team to bring our school buses back.

Please reinstate the SW05 and/or SW06 so ALL our children can get to school easily and on time. Thank you.