

Physical Address Eco Origin Office Park, Block F 349 Witch-Hazel Street Highveld Ext 79, 0157 Centurion, Gauteng South Africa

Email: Info@rtmc.co.za Tel: (012) 999-5200 Fax: (012) 991-0371 Postal Address Private Bag X147 Pretoria, 0001

The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) is an Agency of The Department of Transport and a Member of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration

To : All News Editors

Issued: 09 February 2021

**Attention: News Reporters / Transport Reporters / Newswires** 

## SCHOLAR TRANSPORT, OUR SAFETY CONCERN

**JOHANNESBURG -:** The reopening of schools for the majority of schools in the country is fast approaching and the safety of scholars on their way to and from school remains a major safety concern.

The Road Traffic Management Corporation has noted the high number of accidents among scholar transport vehicles. Major concerns that have been observed include the lack of use of seatbelts, overloading and the transportation of learners at the back of bakkies which is unsafe.

These accidents and fatalities can be avoided by parents making sure that the operators they select to transport their children are compliant and adhere to all safety precautions. Operators can also prevent crashes by making sure that their vehicles are serviced and checked regularly for possible defects prior to their use.

In a joint effort to ensure the safety of our children on the road, parents are urged to ensure the following before choosing a scholar transport operator:

 Enquire with the owner about the number of learners transported on each trip to ascertain that there will be no overloading.



Make sure that your child will be properly restrained in the unfortunate event

of an accident

Check if the driver has a valid driver's license and PDP where applicable

Check if the vehicle is serviced and has a valid disc

The safety of our children remains a priority and the onus is on every parent to make

sure that transport operator they choose is one who is fit for the purpose of

transporting their children safely.

Operators are urged to ensure that their vehicles are fit and ready to transport learners

safely between home and school. They are also urged to leave on time and prevent

breaking the rules of the road while chasing time.

Law enforcement officers will have various operations nationwide to clamp down on

lawlessness and to make sure that there is no overloading.

Help us reduce the number of fatalities, do the right thing and ride safe.

**ENDS** 

**ISSUED BY: THE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (RTMC)** 

Contact person: Simon Zwane: Chief Communication Officer (082) 551-9892

www.rtmc.co.za

Tel: 012 999 5200

Twitter: @TrafficRTMC

