

## **Request for Assistance with Home to School or College travel for students aged 16–18 with an Education, Health and Care Plan or who are disabled**

### **Guidance note:**

#### Independent Travel:

Some students with an Education Health and Care Plan or who are disabled are unable to travel independently. There are many, however, who can, and they are expected to travel independently to education or training where possible. Where students will benefit from support from the Council's Independent Travel Trainer Programme to travel independently, we will offer this to you. You can find out more about this offer [here](#)

#### Eligibility for travel assistance:

The Council provides travel assistance (charges apply) for eligible students. Some students may be exempt from these charges if certain low-income criteria are met. The Council provides travel assistance for students who:

- Have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or are disabled, and aged 16 and over, but below the age of 19, before the course starts; **and,**
- Their disability is such that they cannot travel independently, and evidence is available; **and,**

- Education or training is located more than 3 miles away from their home. Or, the nature of their disability means they must have travel assistance to attend (even if it's less than 3 miles from home); **and,**
- there is no similar or suitable course available nearer to home. Where a specialist course is not available locally, assistance will only be provided if this relates to their needs.

A post 16 travel assistance form must be completed each year and received by the Home to School Transport Team no later than 30 June each year before the start of the September term. If a change of address or a change of placement occurs, you must reapply and be reassessed.

Exceptional circumstances can apply in individual cases. All applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If eligible, a Personal Transport Budget would be the preferred option of assistance offered to those attending college.

Those aged 19 years or older before the start of their course of study can contact Adults Social Care [here](#) to discuss their support needs.

Charges:

If a student is eligible, a contribution towards the cost of transport will be required. The travel contribution for the 25/26 academic year is £672 and can be paid in monthly instalments over 12 months through a Standing Order arrangement.

You may not need to pay the contribution if any of the following apply:

- A young person in the care of the Authority.
- Low-income families who are in receipt of one of the following:
  - Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7400
  - Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16190
  - Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
  - Support under part 6 of Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
  - Income Support
  - Income related Employment and Support Allowance
  - Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
  - Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Young people assessed in their own right who are already making payments to Adult Social Care via a Personal Budget.

**Please provide evidence with your application if you believe that you are exempt from paying the contribution.**