

Cheshire West and Chester Council Post 16 Travel Assistance Policy Statement 2024 – 2025

Post-16 Travel Assistance Policy Statement - Academic Year 2024 – 2025

Travel Assistance policy statement for young people aged 16-18 in further education, continuing learners aged 19 and those young people aged 19 – 25 (inclusive) with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

Department Responsible: Education Service

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Document amended: May 2024

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Introduction

Local authorities do not have to provide free or subsidised travel support to young people over the age of 16 but they do have a duty to prepare and publish an annual travel assistance policy statement. The statement provides details that travel arrangements that local sixths forms, colleges or training establishments have and will also outline when the Council will provide travel assistance.

All young people carrying on their education post 16 must re-apply for travel support.

'Sixth form age' refers to those young people who are over 16 years of age but under 19 years of age or continuing learners who started their programme of learning before their 19th birthday (years 12,13,14).

This statement uses the term 'Post 16' to include both learners of sixth form age and those with learning difficulties / disabilities up to the age of 25.

This statement document specifies the support that Cheshire West and Chester Council 'the council' considers necessary to facilitate the attendance of post 16 learners receiving education or training.

Education or training refers to learning or training at a school, further education institution, a council maintained or assisted institution providing higher or further education, an establishment funded directly by the Education Skills Funding Agency, learning providers delivering accredited programmes of learning which lead to positive outcomes and are funded by the council, for example, colleges, charities and private learning providers.

The council makes no general travel assistance provision for those who attend private schools or colleges. Generally the council will not meet the cost of a student's travel to schools or colleges other than those which are intended to serve the particular area in which they live. If a parent/carer sends a child to another school or college, they cannot claim from the council the subsidy the Transport Commissioning Service would otherwise have been prepared to spend on the child's travel assistance locally.

Aims and Objectives

This statement includes travel assistance arrangements made by Cheshire West and Chester Council, as well as information about those arrangements made by individual educational establishments, where known, and by various commercial transport operators. The information within this statement reflects the position at the time it was published. Parents/carers and students should consult the council website or other relevant websites for the most up-to-date information.

Aims:

- To ensure that Cheshire West and Chester students and their parents are informed of the various travel assistance options available.

Objectives:

- To provide support to those young people (including learners with learning difficulties and disabilities) who need it most, in order to remove travel as a barrier to their continuation into further education.

The 16-19 Bursary Fund

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides financial support to help young people overcome specific barriers to participation so they can remain in education.

There are 2 types of 16 to 19 bursaries:

1. A vulnerable bursary of up to £1,200 a year for young people in one of the defined vulnerable groups below:
 - in care
 - care leavers
 - in receipt of Income Support, or maximum Working Tax Credit in place of Income Support, in their own right
 - in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance or maximum Working Tax Credit and Disability Living or Personal Independence Payments in their own right
 - discretionary bursaries which institutions award to meet individual needs, for example, help with the cost of travel assistance, meals, books and equipment
2. Discretionary bursaries which institutions award to meet individual needs, for example, help with the cost of travel assistance, meals, books and equipment

To be eligible for the discretionary bursary young people must:

- be aged 16 or over but under 19 at 31 August 2024 or
- be aged 19 or over at 31 August 2024 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- be aged 19 or over at 31 August 2024 and continuing on a study programme they began aged 16 to 18 ('19+ continuers')
- be studying a programme that is subject to inspection by a public body which assures quality (such as Ofsted), the provision must also be funded by either a Government funding agency or the local authority

Schools and colleges are responsible for managing both types of bursary. Young people who want to apply for support from the bursary fund should contact their chosen school or college to make an application.

Further information can be found at www.gov.uk where you can search for post 16 bursaries.

Young parents / Care to Learn

If you are a young parent under 20, Care to Learn can help pay for your childcare and related travel costs, up to £180 per child per week, while you're learning.

Care to Learn can help with the cost of:

- childcare, including deposit and registration fees
- a childcare 'taster' session (up to 5 days)
- keeping your childcare place over the summer holidays
- taking your child to the childcare provider

Types of child care

The childcare provider must be Ofsted registered and can be a:

- childminder
- pre-school playgroup
- day nursery
- out of school club

If your child needs specialist childcare, the provider must also be on the Care Quality Commission's register for specialist provision.

If you want a relative to get Care to Learn for looking after your child they need to be both:

- providing registered childcare for children they're not related to
- living apart from you and your child

Payments

Childcare payments go directly to your childcare provider. Before your childcare provider can be paid:

- your childcare provider needs to confirm your child's attendance
- your school or college needs to confirm that you're attending your course

Payments for travel costs go to your school or college - they'll either pay you or arrange travel for you.

Attendance

Payments will stop if:

- you stop attending your course
- you finish your course
- your child stops attending childcare

Eligibility

You can get Care to Learn if:

- you're a parent under 20 at the start of your course
- you're the main carer for your child
- you live in England
- you're either a British citizen or a national of a European Economic Area (EEA) country
- your course is publicly funded (check with your school or college)
- your childcare provider is registered with Ofsted or the Care Quality Commission

Type of course

Care to Learn is only available for courses in England that have some public funding. This includes courses that take place in:

- schools
- school sixth forms
- sixth form colleges
- other colleges and learning providers, including Foundation Learning
- your community at Children's Centres

Young parents are also entitled to apply for an Under 19 Bus Only Ticket or for those aged 19 and over can apply for the 19 – 25 card.

For more information please visit <https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn/how-to-claim>

Council support

Council support for Learners with special educational needs and/or a disability 16-19

In most cases, for young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), travel assistance considerations will form part of the initial assessment, annual review or transition planning process. An application form for travel assistance can be completed and submitted online or call 0300 123 7039 to request a hard copy.

Students with a disability but no EHCP who live further than the statutory walking distance to the nearest qualifying educational establishment and disability prevents them from accessing a standard school bus, parents/carers should complete the online travel assistance application form or call 0300 123 7039 to request a hard copy and provide details of the accessibility issues.

The eligibility of these applications will be assessed on an individual basis by the Special Education Needs (SEN) team. See the council's Home to Educational Establishment Travel Assistance Policy for further information regarding eligibility.

Students aged 16-19 with special educational needs and/or a disability, an EHCP and attending a school, college or other training provider

The council has a statutory duty to provide travel assistance to these 16-19 year olds (who have started a course **before** their 19th birthday) but it is at the council's discretion whether a charge is made for this assistance.

The council has chosen to provide free assistance to 16-19 year olds who:

- have complex special needs or a disability which prevent them from walking, accompanied as necessary by an adult, to the nearest qualifying educational establishment that is under three miles away from their home address, or
- have complex special needs or a disability and are attending their nearest qualifying educational establishment which is over three miles walking distance from their home address.
- there are no other suitable options, (i.e. commercial services or college transport), for a young person to access the nearest educational establishment offering the course they want to study at an appropriate level.

Post 16 special educational needs students transferring into year twelve and thirteen requiring travel assistance from the council will be required to complete a travel assistance application form. Parents are advised to make applications **at the earliest opportunity** and **before** 30 June. Any applications received after this date will be considered in date order and where assessed as eligible, travel assistance cannot be guaranteed for the start of the new term.

You can apply on-line via the [council's website](#). Alternatively, you can request an application form by contacting a member of the SEN team on 0151 3576505 or email senteamwest@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

The travel assistance requirements of post 16 students with special educational needs (SEN) will be considered during the transitional planning process undertaken during years ten and eleven. The council would expect to be consulted in the transitional planning process with regard to travel provision and parents/carers are strongly advised to contact the council's SEN team to confirm that this has taken place.

Students aged 19-25 with learning difficulties and/or disabilities or special educational needs attending a specialist college or other training provider

The council will provide free assistance, where it is considered necessary, to the following 19-25 year-olds (who have started a course **after** their 19th birthday):

- adults (i.e. those who are aged 19 and over) who are receiving education at an institution maintained or assisted by the authority and providing further or higher education **or** within the further education sector
- relevant young adult learners with an EHCP (which can be maintained up until the age of 25) for the purpose of facilitating their attendance at institutions where they are receiving education or training outside the further and higher education sectors. For those young adults, the council's duty only applies where the council has secured the provision of education or training at that institution and the provision of boarding accommodation in connection with that education or training.

The adult duty applies only to young people who are attending a course which they started after their 19th birthday, including those with an EHCP. The overall intention of the adult travel assistance duty is to ensure that:

- those with the most severe disabilities with no other means of travelling are able to undertake further education and training after their 19th birthday to help them move towards more independent living.

Students with special educational needs or a disability who are not otherwise entitled to travel assistance

Post 16 students with an EHCP who are not otherwise entitled to travel assistance may be able to purchase a spare seat (if one is available, after all seats have been allocated to eligible students) on a vehicle that the council has contracted to provide travel assistance from home to the educational provider. The average cost to the council for transporting a SEND student on a Council contracted vehicle is approximately £5,000 per year. A contributory spare seat charge of £880 per annum will be issued and, if the student can demonstrate hardship, this charge will be reduced to £440. Please note: spare seats can only be offered where the vehicle meets Public Service Vehicle Accessibility Regulations (PSVAR) and where there is no commercial service available.

Students from low-income families

The council has adopted its own criteria for determining post 16 hardship/low income cases applying for travel assistance. You can apply online via the [council's website](#)

Assessment criteria for discretionary award due to hardship

A welfare check will be offered to all applicants who are suffering hardship due to hardship/low income. This will help to identify any unmet needs, and to provide early support and financial assistance.

A full assessment will be completed to include details of income and expenditure. This will help to identify whether the applicant has sufficient means to pay any travel costs associated with continuing education. All income will be taken into account including income which would normally be disregarded for benefit calculation purposes. Due regard will be made to all reasonable expenses including any related to disability. This means that those with the highest needs who consequently have increased expenditure will have this considered fully under this test rather than being capped at the level of their Disability Living Allowance (if this was to be disregarded without full consideration of need and expenditure).

Parents/carers and students may appeal against a decision of the local authority in relation to travel assistance. Appeals should be registered through the Transport Commissioning Service in line with the published eligibility and suitability appeals processes.

Refunds

The council will use its best endeavours to process applications for travel assistance and make assessment of eligibility for support within 14 days of receipt of the application. However applicants should be advised that these timescales may be exceeded during peak times: June to September.

There will be no entitlement to assistance until eligibility has been established. However,

if a young person is found to be eligible and the decision has not been made within 14 days of receipt of the application, then assistance will be backdated to the fourteenth day after the application was received and any reasonable travel costs incurred in the intervening period will be reimbursed upon receipt of evidence of expenditure.

Independent Travel Training

The council will be setting up an Independent Travel Training scheme in the academic year 2024-2025. This is to support young people develop skills to enable them to use public transport to access learning initially, but will have a wider impact on them being able to access work and social opportunities. Travel training is available to anyone who is eligible for travel assistance but priority will be given to those children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and/or Disabilities as recorded in an Education, Health and Care Plan, (EHCP). The [webpage](#) will be updated with further information as and when the planning progresses.

Apprenticeships

There is an expectation that employers and learning providers will take into account the young person's travel arrangements. However, where it considers it necessary to do so, the council will make arrangements to support learners undertaking apprenticeships and traineeships. These will be considered on a case by case basis. Employers and learning providers should take account of young people's likely travel arrangements when planning off-the-job training, particularly outside normal working hours.

Those not in education, employment or training (NEET)

The council will consider the needs of those who are vulnerable to becoming not in education, employment or training (NEET) at the age of 16 or 17, or who have already become NEET. Where these young people are offered a suitable course of education or training, the council will provide support where it considers it necessary to do so in order to remove travel as a barrier.

Additional eligibility criteria

Eligibility for assistance under the council's scheme is dependent on the student's age at the start of the academic year. It is normal to continue to provide assistance to students who turn 19 during the course, subject to the period of post-16 assistance not exceeding three years. Assistance is normally granted for a full academic year, and so is not withdrawn part way through a year when the student becomes 19 years of age.

The council no longer provides travel assistance to mainstream post 16 students. It will however continue to exercise its discretionary powers when considering individual cases of low income/hardship. Where low income/hardship can be demonstrated, the council will consider offering support in order to remove travel as a barrier to an individual's continuation into further education.

Applying for travel assistance

If you feel you may be eligible to receive travel assistance from the council you should submit a travel assistance application form as soon as you are made aware of the school / college / training provider who will be offering the course.

Travel assistance applications specifically related to post 16 special educational needs students should be submitted at the earliest possible opportunity and **before** 30 June. As soon as a decision is made, the council will confirm this in writing.

Students may wish to make enquiries about what alternative or additional assistance is available from schools or colleges once the outcome of their application to the council is known.

Applications can be made online via the [council's website](#), alternatively you can contact the teams listed below:

- For details of travel assistance for **mainstream** students, contact the Transport Commissioning Services on 0300 123 7039.
- For details about post 16 **special educational needs** travel assistance please email senteamwest@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

For details of the colleges' own services and of any financial assistance that the colleges might offer, please contact the student services officer at the college concerned.

Full details of the council's school and college travel assistance policy are available on the [council's website](#).

Appendix 2 to this statement gives information about local post 16 school and college provision and contact points and a list of operators and how to contact them. Contract services are subject to periodic re-tendering, so these details are liable to change when individual contracts are re-let. They may also be adjusted to meet changes in demand.

APPENDIX 1

Appeals

The appendices to the council's home to educational establishment travel policy set out the procedures by which eligibility and suitability will be assessed and how individuals can appeal against these decisions. Further details regarding the appeals process can be found on the [council's website](#).

The following chart summarises the process for both types of appeals:

Officer A declines the home to school travel application or offers travel arrangements the parent considers 'unsuitable'

Parent challenges officer A's decision regarding eligibility for students with SEND or on low income on basis of:

- Policy wrongly applied
- Distance measurement
- Route safety
- Consideration of exceptional circumstances

You can complete and submit your appeal online via the [council's website](#)

Parent challenges suitability of officer A's decision on basis of:

- Method of travel unsuitable
- Journey length unsuitable
- Transport provider unsuitable

You can complete and submit your appeal online via the [council's website](#)

Stage 1: Review by a senior officer

Officer B (a senior officer) reviews officer A's decision and sends the parent a written notification of the outcome including:

- Detailed reasoning for decision made
- Notification of option to escalate to stage 2 (an appeal panel)

Parent challenges

Parent challenges officer B's (the senior officer) decision

Stage 2: Review by an appeal panel

Independent appeal panel (officer A or B must not sit on panel) hears written/verbal representation from parent. The appeal panel is independent of the process to date and suitably qualified

Independent appeal panel sends decision letter to parent, including how to escalate the case to Local Government Ombudsman (LGO)

Complaints

The Council is committed to delivering an excellent service. However, there is an acknowledgement that it might not be right the first time. The complaint system is designed to understand what has not worked and then to try and rectify it, if possible.

Complaints will be reviewed by the appropriate team and it will be responded to in stages.

Stage 1: Concerns will be reviewed and if applicable, you will be called to further understand the complaint and how it could be rectified. If you require a written response, this will be written and sent, usually via email, within 20 working days.

If you are unhappy with our response, you can request to escalate your complaint to stage two. You can do this in writing, explaining why you are unhappy with the response and what outcomes you would like to see as a result of the stage two investigation. It is helpful to provide evidence to demonstrate why your complaint has not been resolved at this stage.

Stage 2: The complaint will be triaged to decide if a Stage 2 response is required. An acknowledgement email will be sent explaining why we have refused or accepted your request. If it is accepted, the Council aims to respond to it within 20 working days and the acknowledgement email will state that the complaint will be dealt with as 'routine business'. However, this can be extended to 40 working days or more if the complaint is complex.

A link to the webpage can be found here:

[Make a complaint | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

APPENDIX 2

Travel support

Concessionary tickets for young people 16 – 25 from public transport providers

Many commercial operators provide services which are competitively priced and are often more flexible than the council's services. Parents are consequently advised to always check all travel options before applying for support from the council, as there may be cheaper alternatives available.

Some colleges also operate or contract their own services, which may help those who do not qualify under the council's scheme (see section three above for eligibility). Details of college provision are given in appendix one.

For details of schemes of assistance offered by colleges to help with the cost of travel, please contact the student services officer at the college concerned (see Appendix one).

English National Concessionary Disabled Travel Pass

Issued free of charge to residents of Cheshire West and Chester Council who are eligible disabled. The bus pass entitles the holder to free travel on bus services within England, Monday to Friday between 9.30am until 11pm and at all times on a Saturday and Sunday and bank holidays. Residents with visually impaired cards are entitled to free travel before 9.30am when boarding within the Cheshire Consortium (Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Warrington).

Additionally, Cheshire pass holders can travel on bus services going into Wales providing the journey starts or ends in Cheshire West and Chester.

A £10.50 charge is applied for lost, damaged or defaced passes.

You can find the eligibility criteria or make an application online on the Cheshire West and Chester website.

For further information email concessionarytravel@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Telephone 0300 123 7025

Arriva

This company offers a child's weekly ticket valid on its services in Cheshire. They also offer a variety of other tickets and more information can be found on the Arriva website.

Stagecoach

Ticket offers are also available from Stagecoach and further information can be obtained on their website.

Rail Services

Disabled railcard discount codes

Qualifying disabled residents of Cheshire West and Chester can get a 20% discount on the price of a railcard making it £16 instead of £20, if they have a discount code. Please see the disabled person railcard website to see eligibility criteria required.

How to apply for a disabled railcard discount code?

If you qualify and already have a Cheshire concessionary bus pass you can apply online through the Cheshire West and Chester website. If you do not have a Cheshire concessionary bus pass you can apply by visiting one of our offices with proof of address and proof of identity.

Please note: proof of disability does not need to be provided to obtain a code, however this will need to be provided to National Rail at point of application. You can see acceptable forms of evidence on the disabled persons railcard website.

What happens next?

Once you have received your code, you can purchase your railcard directly from National Rail on the disabled persons railcard website.

Student railcard

The student railcard offers considerable discounts over standard fares, but other cheaper fares are also available. For the best offers students should check with operators what choices are available for their journey at the time they want to travel.

Information on student railcards can be obtained from National Rail on the 16-25 railcard website:

Additional information on rail fares and services can be obtained by contacting National Rail

Email: railcardhelp@railcards-online.co.uk

Telephone: 0345 3000 250

Write to: National Railcards, PO Box 6616, Arbroath, DD11 9AR

Travel support from schools and colleges

Mainstream schools and colleges providing post 16 education have supplied the following information about the travel assistance that they intend to provide during the 2023-2024 academic year

Cheshire West and Chester schools:

Bishop Heber High School

For further information telephone: 01948 860571 or visit the school website.

Chester International School

The school has a bursary scheme that learners can apply for which will cover travel costs for the school. More details can be found here:

<https://www.chesterinternational.co.uk/apply-now/student-bursary.php>

Christleton High School

Christleton Sixth Form students who meet the criteria of eligibility for 16-19 bursary awards will receive help towards the cost of travel and other educational costs. For further information telephone: 01244 735616, email: finance@tltrust.co.uk or visit the school website and go to Sixth Form/16-19 Student Financial Support.

Ellesmere Port Catholic High

Ellesmere Port Catholic High School post 16 students who meet the criteria receive a bursary which is paid on a regular basis and can be used towards travel costs. There is no specific additional support for travel assistance for other students. Most post 16 students live locally and use public transport or lifts from parents. For more information about the bursary please contact the school on 0151 355 2373 or visit the school website.

Helsby High School

Helsby High School does not currently provide specific travel assistance for post 16 students. However, students are able to access the vehicles used by younger students, either by paying a daily fare where available or purchasing a spare seat. Students are also able to use a public bus as the school lies on the main route between Chester and Runcorn with a service running every half hour. Please contact the school via email 6thformadmin@helsbyhigh.org or telephone 01928 723551 for further information or queries.

Neston High School

Neston High School does not have any special arrangements for post 16 travel assistance. Post 16 students from low income households have the opportunity to apply for a bursary grant to support the cost of travel/resources etc.

For further information on the bursary fund (eligibility criteria, prioritisation of allocations and an application form) telephone: 0151 336 3902 or visit the school website.

Queen's Park High School

Queen's Park High School Sixth Form students who meet the criteria of eligibility for 16-19 bursary awards will receive help towards the cost of travel and other educational costs. For further information telephone: 01244 735616, email: finance@tltrust.co.uk or

visit the school website Queen's Park High School - Financial Support for students aged 16-19.

St Nicholas Catholic High School

St Nicholas Catholic High School does not provide direct travel assistance to post 16 students. All students can apply for Student Financial Support funding and if eligible they will be provided with funds directly to their bank account. Students can then use this money to pay towards their travel if they so wish.

Tarporley High School and Sixth Form College

For information concerning post 16 travel assistance please contact the school on telephone: 01829 732558 or email contact@tarporleyhigh.co.uk

The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School

Travel assistance for post 16 students is the same as for all the school's other students, i.e. they can use the same buses that come to school on commercial contracts and where places are available, can use the vehicles put on by the school for areas not serviced by commercial contracts. The prices are the same for all students. Post 16 students meeting funding criteria can have access to the bursary fund provided to school by the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

For further information telephone: 01244 313806 or visit the school website.

The Catholic High School, Chester

Eligible students to The Catholic High School, Chester would have to prove to be of Catholic faith and would then receive free travel assistance by means of a bus pass if it is their nearest catholic school. Post 16 pupils could receive free travel assistance to our school if it is the closest school that provides the course they wish to study.

The Whitby High School

The Whitby High School does not provide post 16 travel assistance for students. For further information telephone: 0151 355 8445 or visit the school website.

The Ellesmere Port C of E College (previously UCEA)

Students in receipt of Free School Meals automatically qualify for the bursary. All students can apply for additional bursary funding, which is provided to pupils on a discretionary basis. The bursary, if awarded, can be used towards travel costs. This is paid directly to the student five times throughout the year. Payment is automatically awarded to pupils who have attendance of 95% and above. Below this figure, each payment will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Any student who is a looked after child (LAC) or requires additional funding for travel, is dealt with on an individual, confidential basis and the finance team decide if a contribution will be made towards further travel costs. For more information email the school admin@epcollege.org or visit the school website.

Upton-by-Chester High School

Upton-by-Chester High School is served by several public buses: the 51, S51 and 53 by Stagecoach; Guilden Sutton and Mickle Trafford by Arrowebrook; and Wervin and Mollington by Cheshire Travel Services. All travel is paid for by the students themselves. 6th Form students may be able to receive financial support towards home to school travel costs if they meet the eligibility criteria for either a Discretionary or Compulsory Bursary Award. For further information telephone: 01244 259884.

Colleges:

Warrington and Vale Royal College (Winsford Campus)

For the academic year 2023-2024, all 16-18 students who will be studying at the main Winsford campus and who live over one mile away from the Winsford campus will receive a free D&G bus pass. This will enable them to get to college using their local bus service during term time only and will not operate at weekends and during college holiday times.

There are also two free college services (information listed below) for students who are studying at the **Warrington Campus**, but who live in the Winsford and Northwich areas:

WVR 2

Winsford Verdin Exchange – 07:15
Winsford Morrisons Distribution Centre – 07:17
Old Hartford campus – 07:30
Weaverham Co-op – 07:40
Warrington campus – 08:30

WVR 5

Northwich bus station – 07:45
Winnington Appleton St – 07:49
Barnton, Runcorn Rd, Manor Drive – 07:53
Tarpoley Road Service Station – 08:00
Warrington campus – 08:30

For further information please visit the college website, email bursary@wvr.ac.uk or telephone 01925 494501. Pick-up times are approximate. Please check the college website for up-to-date information.

Sir John Deane's Sixth Form College

Sir John Deane's Sixth Form College operates its own bus services from the following areas: Warrington, Halton, Congleton, South Manchester, Bunbury and Tarpoley, Sandbach and Crewe, Helsby and Frodsham, Macclesfield and Knutsford. Students travelling from other areas should contact the college for public transport information. Students from families with low income can apply for financial support to assist with travel costs from the 16 to 19 bursary fund. Awards are dependent on individual financial circumstances and the assessment criteria are published annually. For further details telephone 01606 810020 or visit the college website.

Cheshire College, South & West (Ellesmere Port, Chester and Crewe campuses)

Travel to and from Cheshire College, South & West is FREE*.

As part of their sustainable travel plan, the college offers a free* travel system for all full-time students aged 16-18 living over one mile from the campus where their course is delivered.

There are different options available depending on your home location:

- College Coach Service**
- Public Transport
- County Council travel assistance

The plan aims to reduce traffic volume by encouraging cycling, walking, and providing opportunities for access to public and contracted vehicles. The college encourages learners and staff who live within three miles of their campus to maximise their environmental friendliness by cycling to College. Secure cycle storage areas are provided and changing facilities in the sports department are available to enable cyclists to change before going to lectures.

For further enquiries, contact your local college campus transport office or visit the transport page online:

Ellesmere Port Campus

Address: Off Sutton Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 7BF Tel: 01244 656100

Chester Campus

Address: Eaton Road, Handbridge, Chester, CH4 7ER Tel: 01244 656100

Crewe Campus

Address: Dane Bank Avenue, Crewe, CW2 8AB Tel: 01270 654654

<https://www.ccsw.ac.uk/learner-toolkit/transport/>

*Please see the transport booklet on the college website for terms and conditions.

** Please note for students under 19 where a college coach service exists, this is the only service that the college will subsidise.

Macclesfield College

Enquiries should be directed to student services at the college. Visit the website, telephone 01625 410018 or email info@macclesfield.ac.uk

Reaseheath College

Reaseheath will be subsidising travel fees by over £2 million to help ensure that the cost of travel remains as small as possible and that we continue to offer a cost effective, safe and comfortable method of travel to and from campus.

We also offer means tested bursaries which may further reduce the cost of travel. More information on this can be found on the finance pages of the college website.

For further details contact the Student Services Transport Co-ordinator on 01270 613209, email transport@reaseheath.ac.uk or visit the college website.

Other colleges

Coleg Cambria

Coleg Cambria provides buses for full time students travelling to and from college. For most students this is provided for free.

For further details of routes students should telephone student services on 0300 3030 007 or email studentservices@cambria.ac.uk

Priestley College, Warrington

Priestley College offers bursary support from either the National Bursary Scheme or the Priestley Education and Training Trust (PETT) Bursary Fund. Bursaries are intended to remove specific barriers to participation in education, which may include financial or travel issues. Students can apply for a core bursary or a mainstream bursary to help with

Post 16 travel costs. If eligible, travel bursaries will be provided for those who need to use public transport to travel to college. These are worth up to £460.

A number of services run directly to college, including routes from Irlam and Cadishead, Frodsham, Runcorn, Culcheth and Birchwood, Widnes, Penketh and Great Sankey, Golborne, Lowton, Newton Le Willows, Burtonwood, Altrincham, Lymm, and Northwich. The P1 and P2 routes are run by Selwyns coaches, with the P4, P5, P6, P8 and P9 services run by Warrington's Own Buses. These services are heavily subsidised by Priestley to make travelling to college affordable for all students (currently free to ease the cost of living burden currently facing families).

Students are also able to purchase a discounted touch and go annual pass that can be used Warrington's Own Bus services. Additional services operated by Warrington's Own Buses that also run directly to Priestley College include the 5, 5A, 9, 9A, 18, 19, 25, and some 62 services. Students requiring further information on the eligibility criteria for bursaries, or a confidential discussion, can call Priestley's admissions team on 01925 633591, email admissions@priestley.ac.uk or visit www.priestley.ac.uk

Riverside College (Widnes and Runcorn) and Cronton Sixth Form College

A number of dedicated bus routes serve both Cronton Sixth Form and Riverside College for the start and end of the day. Most of these services are operated by Warrington's Own buses. Students who are on a full-time course who live more than 1.5 miles away from college are given a FREE bus pass to use (please note this bus pass is free for academic year 22/23, after this there may be a small charge). In partnership with Warrington's Own buses, the College provides a number of college bus routes operating twice a day (at the beginning and the end of the college day) throughout the student catchment area. Students can also use their free bus pass on all other service buses provided by Warrington's Own buses as well as selected services run by Ashcrofts Travel and Anthony's Travel.

Warrington's Own buses: there are 16 dedicated college bus routes from Runcorn, Widnes, Knowsley, Huyton, Frodsham, Liverpool, St Helens and Warrington. Students may use their free bus pass on any of these services. Students can also use other Warrington's Own service buses during the college week.

Arriva buses: Arriva are a national bus company that operate routes all over the north west of England. Arriva are offering a 'Scholars' bus pass which can be purchased online for approximately £230 annually. This works out at just over £5 per week. My

Ticket daily bus pass: students can purchase a daily pass called a 'My Ticket' for £2.20 (this is not related to the college buses) and use any bus with any provider all day across Halton, Merseyside and St Helens. This ticket needs to be purchased on the day on the bus.

Students requiring further information or timetables for specific areas should visit : <https://www.warringtonsownbuses.co.uk/riverside-college>. For the Ashcroft's 26/26A timetable, and to look at any other provider timetables such as Arriva please click here: <https://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/publictransport/bus-timetables.aspx> or visit the pages below. For more information on all Arriva bus services serving the Colleges and details of Arriva tickets, visit: arrivabus.co.uk or call 0344 800 44 11.

Wirral Metropolitan College

Students requiring further information about college services should telephone 0151 551 7777, email enquiries@wmc.ac.uk or visit the college website: www.wmc.ac.uk