

Transport policy statements for students in further education aged 16–18 and continuing students aged 19.

Name of LEA : Hampshire

Department Responsible: Education

Hampshire County Council

2019/20 Transport policy statement (2018/19 Transport Policy Statement continued for this academic year) for students in further education aged 16-19, continuing students and young people aged 19-24 with learning disabilities

1. Commitment

Hampshire County Council and its post 16 providers are committed to ensuring transport is available to enable students to access education and training as set out in this policy statement. Support is provided either by the County Council or post 16 providers. This policy statement applies for 2019/20 only and sets out the support available.

There is no automatic entitlement to free home to school or college transport once a student is over 16. The authority has considered its resources and the travel to college opportunities for students. Students can attend a college of choice and, if needed apply to their college's student support for assistance. The cost and mechanical process of transporting young people with special educational needs is greater and more complex. HCC recognises that families may need a transport service to ensure that 16+ special needs or disabled students can access a place that is suitable for their needs and so do offer, under discretionary powers, a transport service that requires an annual parental contribution.

2. General transport available

There are a number of public transport service providers in Hampshire. Colleges and schools in Hampshire have their own transport arrangements but the situation does vary. Students should check with their establishment about the transport arrangements and ticketing prices that can apply to both bus and train travel. The following link provides the information supplied by colleges and sixth form establishments.

[College and School Details](#)

Other transport support

Post 16 education providers and other agencies provide support with transport in certain cases, for example:

- Cycle schemes
- Care to Learn - <https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn/overview>
- Wheels to Work - <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/wheels-to-work>
- Brain in Hand - <http://braininhand.co.uk/>

3. Qualification for support from Hampshire County Council for students attending colleges and schools with sixth forms (including academies)

The local authority will assist with travel expenses for post-16 students with special educational needs or a disability. A parental contribution towards the cost of this transport will be required; the cost will be decided by applying the following charging schedule:

Distance to travel	Annual charge
Up to 5 miles	£600
5.01 miles to 7.5 miles	£831
7.51 miles to 10 miles	£1,164
Over 10 miles	£1,330

Transport will normally only be offered if the student has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or if the student has a disability which means he/she requires transport arrangements to be provided. The student or their parents will need to apply for transport and evidence that the County Council must provide transport to facilitate attendance and without transport assistance the student will be unable to attend the educational placement.

When assessing an application the Council will refer to the criteria provided in Appendix 1.

4. Post 16 training providers and apprenticeships

The same qualifications as set out in paragraph 3 apply for students attending post 16 training providers. Students in apprenticeships with employed status do not qualify for any assistance with travel costs.

5. Qualification for support from colleges and schools with sixth forms including academies

In addition to the support available from Hampshire County Council, post 16 providers may also provide financial support towards transport costs for certain students such as young parents, those from low income families, those at risk of being Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs). This is determined by the provider and is often based on how they have locally determined to use 'hardship' funds.

Please follow the link below to information provided by post-16 providers regarding transport services.

[College and School Details](#)

6. Assistance with transport for students over the age of 19 with learning difficulties or disabilities

Students over the age of 19 may qualify for transport assistance if they are subject to an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Assistance with transport for students with learning difficulties or disabilities will be reviewed at the age of 19. It will then continue to be provided either up until the age of 24 or until the student completes the course whichever is the earliest.

The student or their parents will need to apply for transport and evidence that the County Council must provide transport to facilitate attendance and without transport assistance the student will be unable to attend the educational placement.

When assessing an application the Council will refer to the criteria provided in Appendix 1.

7. Independent Travel Training

The County Council provides some mobility/independence training for students with learning difficulties or disabilities. Children in special schools will be subject to transition plans in year 9

and independence training can form part of that plan. Some colleges also provide mobility/independence training.

8. Students attending providers outside Hampshire

The County Council may provide assistance with transport to support students attending providers outside of the county but students need to qualify for support against the criteria outlined in paragraph 3. The provider attended may also be able to provide some support.

9. Students attending providers in Hampshire but living outside the county

Such students should apply to their home Local Authority for assistance. However, providers themselves may provide assistance and are not bound by county boundaries.

10. Applying for assistance with transport

Students wishing to apply for help with transport can do so by accessing the Hampshire County Council website where further details are available. The link is

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture.htm>

Students may also wish to apply to colleges direct for help. Below are details of the colleges and their contact details together with an outline of the assistance they provide.

11. Appeals/Complaints

Complaints regarding any aspect of the policy statement must first be taken up with the local authority. If these do not result in a satisfactory outcome, young people or their families may complain to the Secretary of State.

Students wishing to make an appeal regarding a transport entitlement decision or subsequent transport arrangements should write to the Head of Information Transport and Admissions, Children's Services Department, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG. The appeals process is provided in [Appendix 1](#).

12. College and School Details

To be added

Appendix 1.

Criteria applied to determine eligibility to transport to a Post 16 provider.

Age: The student must be over 15 on the 1 September 2019.

Income: There are no low income requirements.

When the student's parents are in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseekers Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190), Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit, or Universal Credit the charge will be waived. Families in receipt of free school meals (due to low income) are not required to pay the contribution.

Minimum distance: The journey from home to school/college must be more than three miles, measured by the nearest available walking route.

Eligible but living within walking distance? Transport may be provided within the walking distance taking into account, amongst other things, the following factors:

- The student's ability to walk
- The student's need to be accompanied by an adult (usually parent or guardian); and
 - i) The parent's or guardian's ability to walk
 - ii) The need for primary age siblings to be taken to other schools where the timing of the school day or the direction of the other school(s) prevent the parent or guardian from accompanying

Which college or school? Travel assistance will be given to the nearest school or college considered to be the most suitable placement for the student and which offers a course or programme which is designed specifically to meet the special needs of the student concerned. If the course or programme is not specifically designed to meet the needs of those with SEN, travel assistance will be given to the nearest college offering an appropriate course. A course is deemed appropriate where it enables a student to meet his or her career objectives.

A student attending their nearest special school or school with a sixth form named in his or her EHCP may qualify.

Pick-up and drop-off points: Where the distance between a pick-up or drop-off point and home or college is less than 1.5 miles, the County Council will not normally provide transport for that part of the journey. However, transport may be provided for students within these distances where this is recommended following an assessment of their individual needs. The criteria used to determine entitlement within walking distance apply in these circumstances.

Journeys to and from other destinations: Transport is not offered to or from points other than the college and home.

Waiting Time: where appropriate the transport arrangement may include a waiting time at the start or end of the day.

Residential Placements: Some students with complex and/or severe needs are placed in a residential out of county special school or college because there is no appropriate provision available locally. Such students will receive transport at the start and end of each term, half term and at other school/college closures. Any additional transport will be the responsibility of parents/carers.

Home to School Transport - Review/Appeals Process

A young person (or a parent on behalf of their child) who wishes to challenge a decision about:

- the transport arrangements offered;
- their (or their child's) eligibility;
- the distance measurement in relation to statutory walking distances; and
- the safety of the route

may do so by writing to Head of Information Transport and Admissions, Children's Services Department, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG. The full Review/Appeals Process in relation to assistance with travel and eligibility is detailed within Hampshire County Council's Home to School Transport Policy, a link to which is included below;

[Home to School Transport Policy](#)

The process by which Home to School Transport appeals are handled for a young person attending a Post-16 provision matches that detailed in this Policy.