



Transport Guidance for students aged 16-18 in further education and continuing students aged 19 and over

May 2011

Please note that following public consultation, from September 1st 2012 there will be a new transport policy for 16-19 year olds.

To view the new policy online go to:

<http://www.cyps.org.uk/hometoschooltransport>

Or call 0161 934 8517 for more information.



Trafford Healthcare **NHS**
NHS Trust

Trafford **NHS**
Primary Care Trust

Trafford CYPS brings together council and health services to improve outcomes for children, young people, their families and schools.

Transport Policy Statement for learners aged 16-18 in further education and continuing learners aged 19 and over

Trafford Children and Young People's Service
May 2011

1. Summary of Policy Statement

Following consultation in 2008 the Local Authority decided to uphold its 2001 decision not to provide transport assistance for post-16 pupils/ students attending schools and colleges except in the following circumstances:

Students who are staying at their current school after year 11.

- If you attend Brentwood or a special school outside of Trafford and your statement continues after year 11, you will continue to receive transport support from Trafford council.
- If you are a student at Manor High, St John Vianney or a mainstream school your home to school transport will cease at the end of year 11.

Special Circumstances

If you attend one of the above schools and have exceptional needs you may still be entitled to transport support. You or your parent/carer should reapply to the SEN assessment team.

Is there a cost?

No, if you are still entitled to transport support, you will continue to receive this for free.

Students who are leaving school at the end of year 11 to go to college.

When you leave your current school at the end of year 11, to go to a further education college, your statement of SEN will cease. This means that you may no longer be entitled to transport support from Trafford Council.

Special circumstances

If you live more than 3 miles away from your nearest college (or 2 if your parent/carer are in receipt of the maximum level of Working Tax Credit), you may be entitled to transport support.

Is there a cost?

Yes, your parent/carer will have to make a contribution of £200 per year towards the cost of your transport support.

This can be paid in full or in instalments before the start of each new term. The instalments are £70, £70 and £60.

Fee remission

If your parent/carer receives the maximum level of Working Tax Credit, they will not have to pay the £200 contribution.

How do I apply for post 16 transport?

If you want to apply for transport or you are unsure about your entitlement, you should contact the SEN Assessment Team.

Telephone:

0161 912 5126 or
0161 912 5122

Or write to them at:

SEN Assessment Team
Stretford Public Hall
Chester Road
Stretford
M32 9BH

2. Concessionary fares discounts, subsidies, passes and travel cards available for learners aged 16-18.

Bus and Tram Travel

If you are a student attending a full time course at a day school or college and live in Greater Manchester you may be able to apply for a '**Scholar's Pass**' from Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM). The pass is valid on school days until 9pm.

- This pass is available to all students aged 16-18 (the pass may be extended to the end of the school year in which you reach 19 as long as you are continuing on your course).
- **The pass costs £5** and lasts for the entire academic year. Presentation of a valid TfGM Scholar's Pass will entitle you to a

reduced fare of half the adult rate on buses and the concessionary fare on Metrolink and standard class rail travel (providing the pass lists a Metrolink stop or rail station as the outward starting point). This pass can also be used on the **Ring & Ride** service to gain half price fares.

System One Travel Cards have a **Bus Saver 7** ticket for students in full time education aged 16-26. **The ticket currently costs £14.25** and can be used on any local bus company, 7 days a week, any time to 4am. You must be able to show proof that you are in full time education.

Rail Travel

National Rail provide a '**16-25 Railcard**' this entitles you to a third off the cost of rail travel. If you're aged **16-25** and buying your Railcard online, you'll need a valid UK driving licence or passport number to prove you're eligible. You'll also need to be able to upload a digital passport style photo. **The cost is £28 for a year or £65 for 3 years.**

Concessionary Travel for Disabled Learners

Bus and Tram Travel

The **national concessionary travel pass** is available to eligible disabled people (of all ages). With this pass you can travel for free on local buses anywhere in England. If you live in Greater Manchester you can also use your pass to travel for free or for half the current standard fare before 9.30am, on trains and Metrolink trams. You could qualify for this permit if you:

- Have severe walking difficulties
- Are partially sighted.
- Are profoundly or severely deaf.
- Have been or would be refused a driving licence for medical reasons.

The **Concession Plus Pass** allows disabled people (of all ages) free travel at all times on buses, local trains and Metrolink trams in Greater Manchester. You can also use this pass to gain free travel on local buses (after 9.30am) outside of Greater Manchester. You may be entitled to the **Concession Plus** pass if you are:

- Registered blind
- Profoundly deaf and cannot speak or have limited speech that is difficult to understand

You may also be able to get a **Concession Plus** pass if you:

- Cannot use both arms
- Cannot talk
- Have been or would be refused a driving licence on the grounds of severe and long term mental health problems

If you would like more information on these passes & permits and to find out if you are eligible you should contact TfGM's passes and permits department (details can be found in section 11).

Rail Travel

The **Disabled Persons Railcard** may be available to you if you have a disability that makes travelling by train difficult. The Railcard allows **you and an adult or friend travelling with you a third off most fares**. A **one year card costs £18**, you must provide proof that you qualify for the pass. **The Railcard can be used at any time**.

3. What times during the day can learners use their travel pass or obtain concessionary fares?

The Scholar's Pass entitles the holder to travel to and from school/college Monday to Friday until 9pm and for other journeys if supported by a valid journey variance voucher. This permit is valid only until the expiry date shown or the date that you leave school or college (whichever is first).

The National Concessionary Pass can be used for free travel after 9.30am Monday –Friday and all day at weekends and Public Holidays

The Concession Plus Pass can be used for free travel in Greater Manchester at all times.

The 16-25 Railcard has minimum fare/time restrictions for all journeys made at or before 10am Monday to Friday. If you regularly travel before 10am a weekly or monthly season ticket may be more appropriate. However, there is no minimum fare at weekends, on Public Holidays and during July and August. For full details of minimum fares please ask at your local station.

The Disabled Persons Railcard can be used at any time

4. Support for learners who reach 19 whilst continuing on a course

- Transport support from the authority will continue to be provided where a student continues to satisfy the eligibility criteria.
- The Scholar's Pass is valid until the expiry date shown or the date that you leave school or college (whichever is first). The pass is valid until the end of the academic year in which the 19th birthday is reached (the academic year starts on the 1st August).
- The National Concessionary Pass and Concession Plus Pass are available to eligible people of all ages.

5. Help for learner with learning difficulties and or disabilities (including those over 19) or learners facing other difficulties in following their courses

- A door to door service is provided by Greater Manchester Accessible Transport Limited (GMATL) for people of all ages who find it difficult to use ordinary public transport. '**Ring & Ride**' can take you to school/college if you have difficulties getting on and off public transport or difficulties getting to and from main public transport routes and services.

Ring & Ride can also be used as a temporary measure, if you have broken an arm or leg or have a short term illness that is making it difficult for you to use public transport. For a local trip the fare is currently £1. If you have the **national travel pass** you will pay 50p per journey and if you have the **concession plus** pass, you can use this to travel for free.

- If you need help with your personal care or if you have difficulty walking, you might be entitled to the **Disability Living Allowance** (DLA). The DLA has two parts:

Care – if you need help looking after yourself or someone to help keep you safe

Mobility – if you can't walk or need help getting around

- There are two rates of the mobility component depending on how your disability affects you:

Lower rate, if you need guidance or supervision out of doors

Higher rate, if you have any of the other, more severe, walking difficulties

If you are eligible to receive the 'higher rate' you or your parent/carer could get help from the Motability scheme to lease or buy a car. Even if you don't drive, you can nominate two people who could drive the car for you. For more information on the DLA and Motability scheme go to the 'Useful Contacts' section.

Learner Support

Trafford College provide a learner support service and specialist disability support for learners with learning disabilities or difficulties. Help is available to assist learners to access equipment and resources to enable them to study.

For more information visit: <http://www.trafford.ac.uk/section/1237>

Telephone: 0161 886 7070

6. Independent Travel Training

The 16-19 Education Transport Partnership recognises the importance of supporting students to participate fully in learning opportunities. We have supported several members of staff in schools and in the youth service to deliver independent travel training. A guide book has been produced based on the good practice developed in schools.

This can be found on the Trafford CYPS website at:

http://www.cyps.org.uk/education_early_years/education/2009/10/07/independent_travel_guide/

Some schools in Trafford provide travel training as part of their Independent Living Skills programme. You or your parent/carer should check what your school/college can do to help you overcome any difficulties you are experiencing in using transport.

7. When should learners start to apply for transport support?

- The Scholar's Pass can be applied for from the 1st August
- If you are accessing home to school transport in Year 11 and it is thought that transport will still be needed for transfer into post-16 education a new application will have to be submitted by the end of the Spring Term in Year 11.

8. Help for learners with learning difficulties and or disabilities (including those over 19) or learners facing other difficulties in following their courses

Some specialist residential centres offer extra support for students wanting to study particular courses (usually in agriculture, horticulture and art and design) in the form of a 'residential bursary'. This is only applicable if there isn't a similar course available locally. If you want to study a residential course you should check what support is available with the college/further education provider. You can find more information about residential bursaries at <http://moneytolearn.direct.gov.uk> (click on **Extra help**)

The following concessionary permits can be used in any part of the country:

- National Concessionary Pass
- Concessionary Plus Pass
- 16-25 Railcard and Disabled Person's Railcard

9. Help available for learners who attend a Further Education institution which is beyond daily travelling distance and need to stay away.

In some cases the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) may pay for you to study away from home if the course you need (or a similar course) is not available within a daily travelling distance. The college you wish to attend should be able to give you information about this, or you can find more information on the **Residential Support Scheme** at <http://moneytolearn.direct.gov.uk> (click on Extra help)

10. Useful information and contacts

To apply for transport support from the authority:

Contact the SEN Assessment Team,

Stretford Public Hall
Chester Road,
Stretford,
Manchester
M32 0LG

Telephone: 0161 912 5126 or 0161 912 5122

Concessionary Permits and reduced cost travel passes

TfGM passes and permits
Travel Concessions, Customer Services
PO BOX 429
Manchester
M60 1HX
Telephone: 0161 244 1050

www.gmpte.gov.uk and click on 'tickets, fares and passes'

System One Travel Cards

For more information follow this link

<http://www.systemonetravelcards.co.uk/>

Telephone Traveline on 0871 200 22 33

Ring & Ride

To find out if you are eligible and for information on areas covered visit www.ringandride.info or

Telephone your local depot:
Trafford 0161 877 5424

Railcards

For more information on terms and conditions and to apply for a 16-25 Railcard please visit <http://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>

For more information on terms and conditions and to apply for a Disabled Person's railcard please visit <http://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk/>

Financial Support

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

For information call the Benefit Enquiry Line and ask them to send you a pack. This is a confidential freephone service for disabled people and carers. Alternatively you can visit the website for more information.

Telephone: 0800 88 22 00

Textphone: 0800 24 33 55

www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/FinancialSupport/DisabilityLivingAllowance

Working Tax Credit

For more information call the helpline on:

Telephone: 0845 300 3900 or visit the website at:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/taxcredits/index.htm>

Connexions

Connexions offer advice and support for all young people aged 13-19 and up to age 25 for young people with a learning difficulty or disability. They provide information and guidance on a wide range of issues. Below are some of the ways Connexions can support you:

- Attendance at Transition and Annual Reviews.
- Help with accessing college training or employment.
- Arranging visits for you and your parents/carers to post school provision.
- Advice, guidance and access to personal development opportunities.

It is not up to the Connexions service to arrange, authorise or pay for transport for you.

If you would like to talk to someone about your options after year 11, speak to your Connexions PA in school or college.

Alternatively you can contact Connexions in a number of ways:

Address Unit 122 Stretford Mall, Chester Road, Stretford, M32 9BH

Telephone 0161 911 8600

Email contactus@trafford.gov.uk

Website www.connexions-trafford.co.uk