

BOURNEMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

POST 16 TRAVEL STATEMENT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN OBJECTIVES

The Post-16 Travel Policy Statement for 2018-19 provides information on the travel options available for Post-16 mainstream students resident in the Bournemouth Borough .

In an effort to reduce reliance on private car use and help develop the necessary skills for adult life, young people are actively encouraged and supported to travel independently to school/college or their place of work.

All Local Authorities in England have a duty to prepare and publish an annual Transport Policy Statement which complies with the requirements of section 509 of the Education Act 1996 as amended by Section 83 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 regarding adequate provision of transport to facilitate the attendance of learners of sixth form age. The Transport Policy Statement describes the transport support available to young people aged 16-19 years.

2. TRAVEL SUPPORT OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO 16-19 STUDENTS

The travel support options available to all students aged 16-19 in learning or training are as follows:

- There are two local bus companies that offer bus passes that will save students money if they are a regular traveller.
 - **Yellow Buses** operate in Bournemouth and east to Christchurch and beyond. They have a customer service office in Avenue Road in the centre of Bournemouth.
 - **More Buses** (Wilts & Dorset red buses) operate in Bournemouth and west to Poole and beyond. They have an office and travel shop at Poole Bus Station.

- Students may apply for a 16-25 Student Railcard. Further information is available at <https://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>

Travel Assistance: Young learners from families on low income–Bursary Fund

Young learners aged 16-19 attending further education or training may be eligible to receive financial support under a government scheme called the 1619 Bursary Fund. The Bursary Fund can help pay for essential education related costs including travel costs. Schools and colleges are responsible for awarding bursaries and verifying eligibility of students. Institutions are free to

determine the assessment criteria for eligibility for bursaries awarded on a discretionary basis. Vulnerable students, such as those in care, care leavers, young people in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit and disabled students in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance, or Personal Independence Payments are eligible for a bursary of £1,200 for a full academic year.

Students are advised to contact their school, college or training provider's *Student Support Services* to see if they are eligible to receive a 16-19 Bursary Fund/financial help. Contact details for education providers are set out at the end of this document. Details of the scheme are also available at <https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund>. Please note that the Council does not administer the Bursary Fund.

Travel Assistance: Young Parents

Young parents may be eligible for support with childcare and travel costs and learning providers are encouraged to support young people to apply for Care to Learn (C2L). Details are available at www.gov.uk/care-to-learn.

3. Learners attending further education, with Learning Difficulties/Disabilities or Special Educational Needs who live in Bournemouth Borough.

This travel policy statement applies to students aged 16-19 who attend their nearest further education establishments. Consideration will also be given to 19-25 year olds who are continuing to progress and meet criteria under the low income policy to enable participation.

1. Summary of Policy Statement and Main Objectives

The Local Authority is under no obligation to provide travel support for students attending further education establishments.

The Local Authority may exercise its discretion, where they believe it appropriate, to ask students, parents and carers for a contribution towards travel costs. This policy will apply to students in receipt of DLA with a mobility/vehicle allowance so the Local Authority may ask students/parents/carers for a contribution towards travel costs in this instance.

Our travel policy promotes and supports:

- The Government's initiative to increase walking, cycling and bus travel
- The Council's Travel Plan Strategies
- Independent Travel

Support with travel will **only** be considered for Post-16 students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Any support will normally be considered up to the end of the academic year in which the student becomes 19 although consideration may be given to support beyond the age of 19 up to the age of 25.

2. Who is eligible for support with travel?

Bournemouth Borough Council will consider travel arrangements for students who are attending the nearest appropriate further education provision and:

- Have an Education, Health and Care Plan and
- The student's course is regarded as full time education and deemed to be appropriate to both their needs and ability
- The student is aged 16-25
- The student is attending the nearest educational setting that is able to offer a place on an age and need appropriate course
- The student is resident within the Borough
- The student is incapable of travelling to an appropriate educational setting or training provider in the same way as other young people of their age

More information on eligibility is available within the [Bournemouth SEND Travel Policy](#)

NB It is important to note that learners must apply annually for travel support and all travel support is subject to review.

3. How do students apply for support with travel?

An application form can be obtained from Bournemouth Borough Council
Or
Further Education College or School

Applications are normally received by end of June.

The applicant is responsible for returning the completed application form.

Completed application forms should be sent to:

Bournemouth Borough Council

The Passenger Transport Unit

Planning and Transportation

Town Hall Annex

St Stephen's Road

Bournemouth BH2 6EA

Telephone (01202) 458852

Email: passenger.transport@bournemouth.gov.uk

Please be aware that we cannot guarantee that transport will be in place for the start of the academic year if the application is received too late

4. What support is provided for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities including those over 19?

On a case by case basis learners over 19 and up to the age of 25 may be considered for support with travel. Should support be granted learners will need to apply yearly and decisions will be based on any changing needs, changes in circumstances, progression in learning and in line with the policy.

5. Decisions on eligibility for support with travel

Decisions relating to students who did not previously have a Statement of Special

Educational Needs prior to the introduction of Education, Health & Care Plans (EHCP) will be assessed on a case by case basis. Decisions will take into account the age of the student, and the journey and medical evidence provided by colleagues and other partners.

The assessment of support with travel needs will be made in line with this Travel Policy and will draw together any information from the relevant college/school, the student and other colleagues.

The mode of travel provided will vary according to the changing needs of the individual student in the most inclusive, sustainable and cost effective way. In some cases a mileage payment may be made to the parent/carer/student.

6. What independence training is available?

For young people with Statements of Special Education Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP), schools are actively encouraged to use the annual review process as an opportunity to discuss the young person's transition to post 16 study or training. Schools and colleges are normally expected to empower the young person to develop the necessary skills to become independent travellers.

7. What support can students apply for if they need to travel to a course that is outside the Local Authority area?

Local Authorities will consider applications for support with travel from disabled students to colleges outside the area, if the course is considered to be the nearest appropriate course. Applications should be made to the Local Authority in which the student lives. Support with travel will be approved only if the individual application represents reasonable public expenditure. A Personal Travel Budget [PTB] may be offered.

The Local Authority will normally provide support with travel, at the start and end of each term, for SEND students at Independent Specialist Providers. The mode of support with travel will be assessed by the Travel Team in line with the student's needs and the policy.

8. What support is available for students choosing to attend further education which is beyond daily travelling distance?

Students wishing to study on a course that is beyond daily travel distance should contact the Local Authority to discuss this.
For students who are moving to a Post 16 Independent Specialist Provider (residential college), the application form will be completed by the current school, the student or parent/carer.

Support with travel will be provided at the start and end of each term (ie.12 journeys) for students in residential college.

9. What support is available for students who do not meet these criteria?

Students who do not qualify for direct support from the Local Authority should enquire from the school or College they wish to attend as to whether support would be available from them.

Students who use public transport should also enquire as to the availability of discount tickets and other arrangements which may reduce the cost of travel.

10. What support is available for learners on Apprenticeships or Traineeships?

The learning provider is responsible for ensuring that learners have reasonable expenses met in full, where reasonable expenses are needed to overcome barriers to learning. These may include the cost of travelling to or from the place of learning or work placement. Employers are encouraged to support trainees with expenses such as transport and meals.

It may also be worth asking the learning provider if they offer their own transport service as some may do this.

11. Appeals process

All applications for travel support are considered in line with the policy criteria. Where applications do not fulfil the policy conditions set out above, consideration will be given to the individual's circumstances. However, students, parents/carers have a right to appeal. Please see below for details of the appeal process.

All appeals will be considered on an individual basis in line with this criterion. To submit an appeal the applicant should put in writing the reason for the appeal together with any supporting evidence e.g. medical report to:

The Special Educational Needs Team

Community Learning & Commissioning

Town Hall

Bourne Avenue

Bournemouth BH2 6DY.

Telephone: (01202) 456166

Email: SENTeam@bournemouth.gov.uk

12. Travel information

Students are advised to contact their school, college or training provider
Student

Support Services to get advice on eligibility criteria to receive a Bursary
Fund/financial help. Details of the scheme at <https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursaryfund>

For details of Post 16 Options please go to the [Bournemouth Local Offer website](#)

Date of Statement July 2018.

Review Date June 2019.