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Travel Support available from schools and further education institutions

The following is a list of sources of travel support available through schools and further education institutions. Enquiries and applications in respect of these should be made through the young person's school or institution.

16-19 Bursary Fund

Help is available for the most vulnerable 16 - 19 year olds to continue in full-time education or training after 16. Young people can apply to their school or college or training provider for the new 16 -19 Bursary Fund.

The scheme is made up of two parts – a guaranteed payment to a small group of the most vulnerable and a discretionary fund for schools and colleges to distribute. Guaranteed bursaries of £1,200 a year will be paid to the most vulnerable groups.

This includes young people in care, care leavers; young people claiming Income Support or Universal Credit, disabled young people in receipt of Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance.

The second element of the scheme enables schools and colleges to award discretionary bursaries to any students who face genuine financial barriers to participation, such as the costs of transport, meals, books and equipment etc.

Schools and colleges set their own eligibility criteria, decide on how much is paid and set their own conditions for students to meet in order to receive a bursary, for example, linked to behaviour or attendance.

Further information about the 16 -19 Bursary Scheme can be found at: www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund

Care to Learn

Care to Learn provides financial support to young parents who want to continue their education or training and need support with the cost of their childcare, and associated travel. Care to Learn pays up to £160 per child per week to the childcare provider.

Further details can be obtained on 0800 121 8989 or visit www.gov.uk/care-to-learn

Dance and Drama Awards

DADA are scholarships that offer greatly reduced tuition fees, and income-assessed support with living and learning costs, at some of the leading independent dance and drama schools in England.

The awards give learners the chance to compete for a high quality training place. They are offered to learners by the school on the basis of talent demonstrated at audition and not financial circumstances, and provide high quality training for people who want to directly enter the profession.

Further details can be obtained on Tel no 0800 121 8989 or visit www.gov.uk/dance-drama-awards

Residential Support Scheme

The Residential Support Scheme provides help with the accommodation costs of learners aged 16 and over, who need to live away from home to study because their course is not available locally. It covers Education Fund Agency and Skills Funding Agency Learner Support Responsive funded courses which must require more than 16 hours attendance per week and be of at least 10 weeks duration. The course must be of a first level 2 or level 3 qualification.

Further information can be obtained from the national helpline on 0800 121 8989 or visit: www.gov.uk/residential-support-scheme

Travel concessions which may be available

Public Transport Assistance

Birmingham has a comprehensive public transport network which includes buses, trains and metro. Network West Midlands is the new name that connects all public transport in the West Midlands metropolitan area. This includes Birmingham, Dudley, Coventry, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton. It clearly identifies the complete network of bus, train and metro services.

Further information can be found at: www.networkwestmidlands.com

Network West Midlands, the West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority, is responsible for promoting and developing public transport across the West Midlands metropolitan area. They co-ordinate local transport information for Birmingham and publish bus timetables. This includes the Network West Midlands Map and Guide to Public Transport in Birmingham.

The Birmingham map shows all bus operators, routes, rail and metro services and the frequency of bus services. The bus map is available online at: <http://www.networkwestmidlands.com/Maps/maps-home.aspx>

A journey planner is also available on line at: www.networkwestmidlands.com or via the free NetNav and Net WM App's.

The majority of school journeys that are made by bus use public operated transport, although there are a number of special bus services procured directly by schools or run commercially and some dedicated bus services run by private operators. The Network West Midlands Sustainable Travel Team informs individual schools and Council School Travel Advisers within the West Midlands when school specific buses are being withdrawn or of any changes in timings of which they are aware.

Network West Midlands's Sustainable Travel Team work with schools in Birmingham to assist with the public transport elements of school travel plans and promote sustainable travel. The support offered includes the following:

- Year 6 transition workshops
- Special Needs School Travel Training Workshops and hire of Resources
- <http://futuretravel.org.uk> is an interactive web site with downloadable teacher notes, lesson plans and worksheets suitable for key stages 1 - 3.
- Bespoke public transport packs
- Journey planning advice
- Dedicated Education officers
- Travel awareness sessions & route planning for pupils and staff
- Advice on public transport aspects of travel plans.
- Liaison on behalf of school with transport operators to ensure services are running at appropriate times.
- Bus behaviour issues
- Attend events to promote public transport and sustainable travel.

Network West Midlands works in partnership with the Safer Travel Police Team, West Midlands Local Authorities and Transport Operators. Within local authorities Network West

Midlands liaise with School Travel Advisers, TravelWise Officers and Post-16 Transport Partnership Groups.

Network West Midlands – 16 - 18 Photocard

There is an extensive public transport network of buses, trains and metro in the Birmingham area. Students aged 16-18 (Years 12 & 13) and in full-time education (minimum 12 hours per week) can purchase a '16 - 18 Photocard' (valid for one academic year). It costs £10 and is available through an online application process at www.networkwestmidlands.com/16-18.

Unique Validation Codes (UVC's) are only available from the student's school or college and these are required to successfully apply for a 16-18 Photocard. Information is available from **Network West Midlands ticketing on 0345 303 6760**.

The photocard card entitles the student to pay child fares (approximately half adult cash fares) to and from school or college on buses, trains and trams within the West Midlands area and also allows students to purchase child rate weekly, 4 weekly, Direct Debit and term season tickets. This concession is funded by Network West Midlands.

Applications for the Network West Midlands 16 – 18 photocard can now only be made online. A Unique Validation Code is required with every application and these are only available from the school or college the student will be attending. Students cannot apply for one until they enrol. At peak times (the start of the academic year) it normally takes ten working days for the photocard to be returned.

Direct Debit and season tickets may be purchased as soon as they go on sale and used until 30th September without a photocard. The photocard must be in place by 1st October to continue to use the pass.

IMPORTANT: Applications for a 16 - 18 photocard received from students who are not eligible due to their age, 18 or over by 1st September of the current academic year or because they do not meet the residence criteria may forfeit the £10 fee. Refunds will only be given at the discretion of Network West Midlands.

The 16 - 18 Photocard is valid during the following times:

16 - 18 Photocard and Cash Fare	Monday to Friday term time only and journeys to / from the school or college only. From start of daytime services to the learning provider before 0930 and from 1530 until 1800 and, if in connection with the school or college curriculum, outside these times.
16 - 18 Photocard and NX West Midlands Scholar's Ticket	Scholar's tickets are not available for retail sale but may be provided for those students with Learning Difficulties and / or Disabilities from the Local Authority and are only valid on National Express West Midlands services. Monday to Friday term time only and journeys to/from the school or college only. From start of daytime services to before 0930 and from 1530 to before 1800 and, if in connection with the school or college curriculum, any time

up to 2215.

**16 - 18 Photocard
and Network Scholar
Season Ticket**

As above but valid on any operator's bus and train and Metro within the West Midlands County.

16 - 18 PHOTOCARD
AND TERM NETWORK

ON SALE 3 TIMES PER YEAR, USUALLY AUGUST, MARCH / APRIL AND DECEMBER, 3 COVER A FULL YEAR. VALID ON ANY BUS, TRAIN OR METRO WITHIN THE WEST MIDLANDS COUNTY. 16 - 18 PHOTOCARD WITH CHILD RATE SEASON TICKETS ARE VALID WHENEVER THE TICKETS ARE VALID INCLUDING WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS.

16 - 18 PHOTOCARD
AND TERM NETWORK BY
DIRECT DEBIT
(N RAIL FOR CHILD
TRAIN ONLY TRAVEL AND
NBUS FOR CHILD ALL
OPERATOR BUS TRAVEL
IS ALSO AVAILABLE
FROM NETWORK WEST
MIDLANDS DIRECT
DEBIT)

VALIDITY AS ABOVE PLUS RAIL ADD-ON AVAILABLE FROM STATIONS OUTSIDE THE WEST MIDLANDS. DIRECT DEBIT OFFERS GREAT SAVINGS AND FLEXIBILITY AS THE TICKET IS VALID ALL DAY, EVERY DAY AND DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS. TICKETS START ON THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH AND YOU CAN NOW BUY YOUR FIRST MONTHS TICKET USING A DEBIT AND CREDIT CARD WHILE YOUR APPLICATION IS BEING PROCESSED. 10 MONTHLY PAYMENTS ARE MADE FOR 12 MONTHS TRAVEL AND TICKETS ARE DELIVERED BY POST EACH MONTH. THESE TICKETS CAN BE USED UNTIL 1ST OCTOBER WITHOUT A VALID 16-18 PHOTOCARD AFTER THAT A VALID 16-18 PHOTOCARD MUST BE USED WITH THIS TICKET.

CONTACT NETWORK WEST MIDLANDS DIRECT SALES TEAM ON 0121 214 7550 OR VISIT WWW.NETWORKWESTMIDLANDS.COM/DIRECTDEBIT

16 - 18 PHOTOCARD
AND NX WEST
MIDLANDS TERM PLUS

On sale 3 times per year usually August, March / April and December, 3 cover a full year. Can be used all day, every day on all National Express West Midlands bus services during its validity, including weekends, evenings and relevant holidays.

Can usually be purchased in August without a valid 16 - 18 Photocard providing person is eligible for and obtains one no later than 1st October in relevant year. **Tel no: 0121 254 6363 for confirmation.** Not valid on certain special services.

Network West Midlands Free Travel Pass (for people with eligible disabilities)

Network West Midlands organises travel concessions for people with certain eligible disabilities. It is available to all age groups 5 upwards providing they are a permanent resident of the West Midlands. A free permit is provided for use on bus, rail and Midland Metro services valid at the following times:

Mondays to Fridays 0930hrs to end of daytime service
Weekends and Bank Holidays Anytime

Further details can be obtained on Tel no 0121 214 7550 or web site

There is also a free 'add-on' ticket for those young people between the ages of 16 to 18 years which is available to those in education and receiving the above travel concession. This add-on allows travel before 9.30am on bus, rail and metro services in the West Midlands.

You must be studying for more than 16 hours per week to qualify for this free 'add-on' ticket. Unique Validation Codes (UVC's) are only available from the student's school or college and these are required to successfully apply for a free 'add-on' ticket.

Further information about the 'add-on' ticket is available from Network West Midlands Ticketing on 0345 303 6760.

National Express West Midlands – Travel Cards and Term Plus

NATIONAL EXPRESS WEST MIDLANDS OFFERS A WHOLE RANGE OF PRODUCTS SUITABLE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 -18, PROVIDING THEY QUALIFY FOR AND OBTAIN A NETWORK WEST MIDLANDS 16 -18 PHOTOCARD. THERE IS ALSO A DIRECT DEBIT OPTION THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE A NETWORK WEST MIDLANDS 16 -18 PHOTOCARD, BUT PROOF FROM THE STUDENT'S SCHOOL/COLLEGE THAT THEY ARE IN FULL TIME EDUCATION IS REQUIRED.

TRAVEL CARDS

The National Express West Midlands products available are 1 week and 4 week travel cards and Term Plus. These travel cards can be used all day, everyday on all Travel West Midlands buses during their validity, as many times as required. Term Plus is available by Direct Debit you can apply to join the scheme whenever you wish.

Further details can be obtained on 0121 254 6363 or web site www.nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands for Direct Debit information call 0121 254 6322.

For timetable information call Traveline 0871 200 22 33.

FOR FULL DETAILS ON THE TYPES OF PASSES THAT CAN BE PURCHASED PLEASE GO TO THE NETWORK WEST MIDLANDS WEB SITE: WWW.NETWORKWESTMIDLANDS.COM AND THE NATIONAL EXPRESS WEST MIDLANDS WEB SITE: WWW.NXBUS.CO.UK/WEST-MIDLANDS

NETWORK WEST MIDLANDS ALSO HAS AN INTERNET JOURNEY PLANNER AVAILABLE AT ITS WEB SITE WHICH ENABLES STUDENTS TO SEE WHICH PUBLIC TRANSPORT ROUTES THEY WOULD NEED TO USE TO TRAVEL FROM HOME TO THE SCHOOL OR COLLEGE THEY ARE ATTENDING. THE NEW NETNAV AND NET WM JOURNEY PLANNING APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE WEST MIDLANDS.

WEST MIDLANDS SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORT LTD (WMSNT) – RING AND RIDE

WMSNT is the largest, non-statutory, accessible passenger transport provider of its kind not only in the West Midlands but also the world. It operates a range of services all focussing on the needs of people with limited mobility in the West Midlands urban area.

These include Ring and Ride, a door to door bus service for people unable to use mainstream public transport provision. Ring and Ride is aimed at meeting individual travel needs, enabling people to maintain their independence whilst being supported by appropriately trained driving staff throughout their journey.

It also has a contracts division which currently provides complete home to school transport solutions for eleven special needs schools in Birmingham plus a number of smaller contracts

at other similar schools. In addition to home to school, it also provides transport for activities during and also outside the school day.

All **WMSNT's** activities are supported by its own training department which is an NVQ approved body as well as being certified to provide RoSPA Advanced Driver Training. It also provides external training including pupil guides for Birmingham Local Authority and also registered taxi drivers for Coventry City Council. As a registered Charity, with 30 years of specialist experience, recently recognised by the DfT "...as best practice for home to school transport in the UK", **WMSNT** offers cost effective, "not for profit" transport solutions to include and beyond the statutory obligation to get children to and from school.

Further details can be obtained from Sue Cozens, Operations Manager on 0121 327 8128 or email: sue.cozens@wmsnt.org

School Travel Plans

The Birmingham City Council Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy sets out how Birmingham will develop and promote sustainable travel within the city, so that the needs of children and young people are better catered for. It has four main objectives:

- Increase the use of sustainable travel on the school journey
- Work with all Birmingham Schools to develop and implement a school travel plan
- Provide infrastructure to support sustainable travel
- Take a partnership approach to sustainable travel to school issues

In 2015 the Council adopted Modeshift STARS (MSS) a sustainable travel online tool which is a nationally accredited awards scheme that supports schools in the promotion of active, sustainable and safe travel. The online tool is provided, maintained and endorsed by the Department for Transport (DfT) and is included in their Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS). This scheme is the only national accreditation scheme for rewarding sustainable School Travel Plans.

Whilst the online tool is universally available to schools, the 'self-service' nature of Modeshift STARS enables schools to achieve a national school award that demonstrate excellence in supporting road safety, cycling and walking.

Most Birmingham schools have a School Travel Plan (STP) and the Council is encouraging schools to review their travel plan using Modeshift STARS with the aim of achieving either a Bronze, Silver or Gold accreditation.

When signing schools up to Modeshift STARS and developing activities/initiatives with schools this will be co-ordinated with existing delivery programmes. All these delivery programmes are linked to the accreditation process and address low activity levels and high incidence of obesity in Birmingham's school children along with tackling local traffic congestion and reducing road accidents.

School Travel Plans help improve the fitness of children by setting targets aiming for the increased of walking and cycling and enhance parent and child interaction. They can ease traffic congestion and pollution around schools by reducing the number of vehicles arriving at the beginning and end of the school day. Additionally, they can draw attention to local issues of road safety and are used to support requests for highway improvements.

The Council can support schools with resources to help promote sustainable travel and the first step towards this is for schools to sign up to Modeshift STARS www.modeshiftstars.org. The Council will then work with schools to start the process of reviewing their plan.

For more information, please contact the Transportation Behaviour Change Team by emailing connected@birmingham.gov.uk or call 0121 303 1873.

Contacts:

Children and Young People

Travel Assist Service
PO Box 16541
Birmingham
B2 2DD

Email: travelassist@birmingham.gov.uk
Telephone: 0121 303 4955
Website: www.birmingham.gov.uk/travelassist

16-19 Bursary Fund

Telephone: 0300 303 8610 web site: www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund

Care to Learn

Telephone: 0300 303 8610 web site: www.gov.uk/care-to-learn

Dance and Drama Awards

Telephone: 0300 303 8610 web site: www.gov.uk/dance-drama-awards

Residential Support Scheme

Telephone: 0300 303 8610 web site: www.gov.uk/residential-support-scheme

Network West Midlands website: www.networkwestmidlands.com or telephone 0345 303 6760

Travel West Midlands web site: <http://nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands/>

Birmingham Schools and Academies

An up to date list of schools and academies in Birmingham is available at <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schools>

APPENDIX 3

TRAVEL CONCESSIONS AND OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT

1. Support available for access to further education institutions

The following is a list of sources of support that may be available through further education institutions. Enquiries and applications in respect of these should be made through the adult's education institution or directly to the provider.

Personal Independence Payment

This payment helps with extra costs caused by long-term ill health or a disability if you are aged 16-64. This includes a Daily Living as well as a mobility component.

Disabled Student's Allowances

Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) are paid on top of your other student finance. They help you pay the extra costs you may have because of your disability. They don't have to be repaid.

You can get help with the costs of:

- specialist equipment, e.g. a computer if you need one because of your disability
- non-medical helpers
- extra travel because of your disability
- other disability-related costs of studying

Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance (HRMC DLA)

This allowance is provided by the [Department for Work and Pensions \(DWP\)](#) and can be used to cover the cost of a lease agreement with Motability Operations Ltd. As of 12 April 2017, this allowance is £58.00 per week. To lease a car through the Motability Scheme, you must have at least 12 months' award length of the HRMC DLA remaining.

Enhanced Rate Mobility Component of Personal Independence Payment (ERMC PIP)

As part of its welfare reform programme, the Government has started to replace Disability Living Allowance (DLA) with a new benefit called [Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\)](#) for disabled people aged between 16 and 64. The Motability Scheme works with PIP in the same way as it does with DLA. For more information, go to dwp.gov.uk/pip. As of 12 April 2017, this allowance is £58.00 per week.

Ring and Ride

Ring and Ride is a door to door service for anyone living in the West Midlands that struggles to use conventional transport.

The service is ideal for disabled people who want the convenience of a door to door service. It operates 6 days a week from 8am to 10.30pm. This service is subsidised by Birmingham City Council.

Adult Learning Grant (ALG) for students who are 19+

To get ALG, you need to be 19 or over, and studying in England. Whether you are eligible also depends on the course you are taking, and your income. Applications can be made at the start of the course at the following contacts:

Telephone: 0800 121 8989. **Website:** www.direct.gov.uk

Care to Learn

Care to Learn provides financial support to young parents who want to continue their education or training and need support with the cost of their childcare, and associated travel. Care to Learn pays up to £160 per child per week to the childcare provider.

Telephone: 0800 121 8989. **Website:** www.gov.uk/care-to-learn

Residential Support Scheme

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Telephone: 0800 121 8989. **Website:** www.gov.uk/residential-support-scheme

2. Travel concessions which may be available

Public Transport Assistance

Birmingham has a comprehensive public transport network which includes buses, trains and metro. Network West Midlands is the new name that connects all public transport in the West Midlands metropolitan area. This includes Birmingham, Dudley, Coventry, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton. It clearly identifies the complete network of bus, train and metro services.

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<http://www.networkwestmidlands.com/Maps/maps-home.aspx>

A journey planner is also available on line at: www.networkwestmidlands.com or via the free NetNav and Net WM Apps.

The English National Concessionary Pass (for people with eligible disabilities)

The English National Concessionary Pass gives disabled people free travel by bus anywhere in England during off-peak times – between 9:30am and 11:00pm Monday to Friday and all day at weekends and on public holidays.

Residents of the West Midlands are also entitled to free train and Metro travel during these times. A pre 9:30am enhancement will be added to the concessionary card of eligible applicants aged 5-15 and those aged 16-18 in full time education. The enhancement is valid until the 31st August of the academic year the applicant turns 18. This will allow for travel before 9:30am.

You can apply for The English National Concessionary Pass by accessing the following link:
<https://www.networkwestmidlands.com/tickets-and-passes/disabled-persons-pass/>

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Telephone: 0121 254 6363. **Website:** www.nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands
For timetable information call Traveline on: 0871 200 22 33.

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NATIONAL EXPRESS WEST MIDLANDS WEB SITE: WWW.NXBUS.CO.UK/WEST-MIDLANDS

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Contacts:

Travel Assist, PO Box 16541, Birmingham, B2 2DD
Telephone: 0121 303 4955. Website: www.birmingham.gov.uk/travelassist

Adult Learning Grant (ALG):
Telephone: 0800 121 8989. Website: www.direct.gov.uk

Care to Learn

Telephone: 0300 303 8610. Website: www.gov.uk/care-to-learn

Department for Education

Telephone: 0800 121 8989.
Website: www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/14To19/MoneyToLearn

National Express West Midlands, 51 Bordesley Green, Birmingham, B9 4BZ
For live chat tweet: @nxwestmidlands. Website: <http://nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands>

Residential Support Scheme

Telephone: 0300 303 8610. Website: www.gov.uk/residential-support-scheme

West Midlands Combined Authority, PO BOX 9421, Birmingham, B13 3TR:
Telephone: 0345 303 6760. Website: www.networkwestmidlands.com