

# **TRANSPORT POLICY STATEMENT FOR LEARNERS AGED 16 – 18 IN FURTHER EDUCATION AND CONTINUING LEARNERS AGED 19 AND OVER**

**Name of Local Authority: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council**

**1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.**

## **Introduction**

This document describes the support available to young people of Barnsley entering or continuing with full time post 16 Education. It explains the support package in place to encourage participation and prevent transport being a barrier to young learners.

Under the raising the Participation Age legislation, students have been required to be in education, employment, or training until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. This could involve mixing full time work with study following an apprenticeship, continuing full time in school or college, or combining part time training with volunteering. However, there is no change to compulsory school age and no extension to the entitlement to free transport beyond end of year 11.

This policy statement gives information from the Local Authority (LA), schools, academies and colleges and other relevant sources. The aim is to provide the most up to date details of the latest charges and any means testing procedures.

## **Consultation**

This transport policy statement is largely based on information contained in the Home to School Travel Assistance Policy. Annual reviews are carried out following extensive consultation with stakeholders including colleges, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, and service users.

## **1 Mainstream students**

For mainstream post 16 students there are available a number of passes and travel cards which provide discounted rates for students attending sixth form at school, college or other places of learning or training please see details below; The most common one is the ZOOM 16 – 18 travel pass.

### **ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass**

A ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass is available giving discounted travel across the region. The pass is also valid during August giving concessionary fares to young people in this age bracket all year round to aid students who are in apprenticeships.

Passes are valid for 2 years and will have an expiry date of 31 July of the second year in further education, apprenticeship, or employment.

The concessionary fare is:

- 80p per single journey on bus and tram
- Half price rail fare on Northern rail services A range of operator discounted tickets is available on production of a 16-18 Travel Pass.

### **Who can get the ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass?**

All young people aged 16-18 living in South Yorkshire are eligible, including those in apprenticeship and employment. The pass is free.

### **How to get the ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass**

The quickest way to apply for a ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass is online by using a MYTSY account. Full details can be found on the Travel South Yorkshire website:

<https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/ticketspasses/>

### **ZOOM BEYOND 18-21 TRAVEL PASS**

If you are aged between 18 and 21, and live in South Yorkshire, you can apply for a ZOOM BEYOND 18-21 Travel Pass.

- Travel anytime, anywhere in South Yorkshire for 80p, on bus or tram
- Valid for up to one year (until 20 June 2022 or the day before your 22nd birthday, whichever is sooner)

### **How to get the Zoom Beyond 18-21 Travel Pass**

The quickest way to apply for a ZOOM BEYOND 18-21 Travel Pass is online by using a MYTSY account. Full details can be found on the Travel South Yorkshire website:

<https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/ticketspasses/>

### **GetAbout ticket**

- GetAbout is the combined bus and tram ticket for under 18-year-olds who have a valid ZOOM Under 16 Travel Pass, or a ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass, which enables travel anywhere in South Yorkshire at a fraction of the price of an adult ticket.
- Once you've bought your GetAbout ticket you are then able to travel on any bus or tram of your choosing without making any further payment. All you need to do is show the driver or conductor your GetAbout ticket and your valid travel pass. Note that a few school buses do not accept GetAbout - further information is available from Traveled (01709 515151).
- GetAbout and GetAbout Plus tickets are available for 1 day, 7 days or 28 days, and further details and prices can be found via <https://www.sytravelmaster.com/>

### **For learners over the age of 19;**

You are able to obtain an 18-21 discount card. Information is available at:

<https://www.sytravelmaster.com/>

### **The English National Concession Travel Scheme (ENCTS) – The Disabled Person's Pass**

The ENCTS pass enables free travel for those whose disability makes them eligible for it. For further information please visit the Council's website at: <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/roads-travel-and-parking/public-transport/disabled-persons-travel-pass/>

## 1.1 Help with Travel Costs

If you require help with your travel costs you could apply for a bursary fund, see below for details.

### The 16-19 Bursary Fund

Schools, colleges, and training providers have funds to help students studying a full-time course and who they think might struggle with the cost of the studies. For advice speak to student support services or course tutors.

There are two types of 16-19 bursary funds:

#### 1. Vulnerable student bursary

You could get a bursary worth up to £1,200 depending on your circumstances and benefits. Please note Barnsley College call this the Vulnerable Bursary.

The Bursary fund can help to pay for costs like:

- Clothing, books, and other equipment for your course.
- Transport and lunch on days you study or train.

Students must be:

- Between 16 and 19 at the start of the academic year they want the bursary for.
- Studying at school or college, or on an unpaid training course.
- Meet residency requirements – your school or college will help with this.

You could get up to £1,200 vulnerable student bursary if at least one of the following applies:

- You are in or have recently left local authority care.
- In receipt of income support.
- In receipt of Employment and Support allowance (ESA) and either Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your name.
- In receipt of Universal Credit in your name and have significant caring responsibilities for another individual.

#### 2. Discretionary bursary

You could get a discretionary bursary if you need financial help but don't qualify for a vulnerable student bursary. Your education or training provider decides how much you get and what it is used for.

Please note that Barnsley College call this the Learners Support Fund.

If you are not in one of these groups, you could still get a discretionary bursary depending on your personal circumstances. Ask at your school, college, or training provider's student support services to see if you are eligible.

More information and how to apply can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund> or at Barnsley Council's website <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/16-19-bursary-fund/>

## 1.2 Care To Learn

If you are studying and aged under 20 at the start of your course, Care to Learn can help pay for your childcare costs while you are learning.

It is only available for public funded courses in England. This can include courses in:

- Schools / academies
- School / academy 6th forms
- 6th form colleges

More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn>

## 1.3 Traineeships

For students on Traineeships the learning provider is responsible for ensuring that reasonable expenses are met in full where they are needed to overcome barriers to learning. This may include the cost of travelling to or from the place of learning or work placement. Please contact your learning provider for more information. Students may also be eligible for a bursary (see Bursary Fund section above).

## 2 Travel Assistance for post 16 Special Educational Needs and Disabled (SEND) students

This document sets out the support available to the young people of Barnsley with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) entering or continuing with post 16 education. It explains the support available to encourage participation and prevent travel being a barrier to young learners. An assessment of the travel assistance needs will be undertaken using information contained in the EHCP, together with information supplied by the school / college, parent/carer and health care professionals considering their age, mobility, and the effect of their SEND on their ability to travel to school or college for students who are:

- Aged 16 years or older on 1 September.
- Over the age of 19 and under 25 years of age on 1 September.

Travel assistance will be provided where the distance between their home and college or training establishment is 3 or more miles measured by the nearest available walking route.

Where the distance to the appropriate school is less than the distances specified above and/or when a student has no EHCP, travel assistance will be considered taking into account the individual circumstances and travel needs of students with significant sensory, medical or behavioural difficulties that prevent them from getting to school or college even when accompanied by a parent or carer.

For learners with an EHCP, transport assistance normally continues until the course ends. In a school this will normally not be later than the school year in which the learner becomes 19. For students over 19, progression in learning must be evidenced against outcomes in the EHCP.

If travel assistance is approved it is for the LA to decide on the travel arrangements to get pupils between home and their place of learning at no cost to the pupil and may be provided in a number of ways including independent travel training, personal travel budget, mileage reimbursement or contract school minibus or taxi.

## **How to apply**

You can apply for travel assistance completing our online application form;

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/school-travel/school-travel-for-children-with-special-educational-disability-or-mobility-needs-send/>

## **If your application is refused**

If your application is refused, you can ask us to review the decision by filling in an appeal form which you can find here: <https://my.barnsley.gov.uk/form/appeal-a-home-to-school-transport-decision/page-1> For further information on eligibility please refer to the Home to School Travel Assistance Policy 2018 – 2021 on the Barnsley Council website:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/16896/home-to-school-travel-assistance-policy.pdf>

## **Search for information about transport**

You can find more information about transport in your area by searching with your postcode using this link: <https://www.gov.uk/subsidised-college-transport-16-19>