POST-16 TRANSPORT STATEMENT

For implementation from September 2021

Contents

Page
1. Document information
2. Contents and Explanatory Notes
3. Post 16 Students in Sixth Forms and Further Education
4. Transition: children entitled under the previous policy
5. Comments / Complaints
6. Annex 1 – Administrative and operational arrangements

1. Document Information

Title:	**Post-16 Transport Statement**
Status:	Approved
Current version:	1
Author:	Martin Goff school.admissions@iow.gov.uk
Sponsor:	
Consultation:	Spring 2021
Approval by:	
Approval Date:	
Review frequency:	Annual
Next Review:	Not applicable

2. Contents and Explanatory Notes

The Education Act 1996 (as amended) imposes a duty on Local Authorities (LAs) to facilitate the attendance of children at schools and to ensure no parent can have a defence to a prosecution for non-attendance simply because the LA has not made suitable arrangements for transport to and from school. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 created new duties on the IWC to provide free transport for pupils in receipt of free school meals or whose families receive the maximum level of Working Tax Credit. Statutory Guidance has been issued by Central Government, particularly Home-to- School Travel and Transport Guidance (July 2014) and Post-16 transport and travel support to education and training (January 2019) and is used by all LAs to inform policy and provision of the transport service. There is no requirement to extend pre-16 transport services to students in the Post-16 sector. This guidance refers to legislation regarding the provision of transport to Post-16 education and training for young people of sixth form age and legislation regarding the provision of transport to post-19 education and training for those aged 19 to 25 and for whom an EHC plan is maintained. All Local Authorities must publish annually a Post-16 Transport Policy Statement. The IWC statement will be updated each year and published on http://www.iwight.com/ Isle of Wight Council

3. Post-16 students in sixth forms and further education (16-19 year olds)

1. The IWC provides no free or subsidised transport for post-16 mainstream students in further education.

2. If a post-16 full-time student is allocated a place at St. George's School, by the Local Authority in the student's EHCP, then the following entitlement will apply:

(a) If the school is more than 3 miles from the pupil's home address, the pupil will be entitled to receive free home-to-school transport.

3. Furthermore, if a post-16 student with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities has been in receipt of particular Home to School transport arrangements due to their EHCP requiring it for their school education (4- 16 year olds), then the presumption is that such arrangements will continue – unless a further assessment of needs is required in relation to the post-16 circumstances.

4. If a post-16 full-time student is a Learner with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities and the school, institution or provider chosen by the student is located more than three miles from the student's home address, the student will be entitled to receive home to education transport subsidised by the Isle of Wight Council up until the age of 24. In drawing up the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for young people between the ages of 16 and 24, the Local Authority will consider the travel needs of the young person. This entitlement can be accessed through a termly bus pass.

5. If a young person (16-19 years old) is not in education, employment or training (NEET), they may be entitled to financial support with travel costs associated with efforts to engage in education, employment or training. Such assistance is made available through travel tokens issued in advance of their travel. These tokens can be used for travel from their home address to the Isle of Wight Council's Island Futures Team or to a Post-16 provider. Travel tokens are available through the Island Futures Team, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight or by calling them on 01983 823888.

4. Transition: children entitled under the previous policy

Any pupil entitled under existing discretionary prevision and currently receiving discretionary transport, will continue to receive the same service until the end of their current phase of schooling, providing they are completing the same course and there are no change of circumstances (e.g. change of address or school). If circumstances do change then the new policy will apply.

5. Comments / Complaints

If you want to make comments or complain about the Home-to-School service you have received, you can write to us at: School Admissions and Transport Team, Isle of Wight Council, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1UD or alternatively you can telephone us on 01983 823455.

Annex 1
Administrative and operational arrangements:
Frequently Asked Questions

Where transport is provided to special schools, are specially adapted vehicles provided?
Yes, with the following provisions:
 All buses are fitted with seat belts
 Booster seats are provided when required
 All buses have at least one escort on board
 All drivers and escorts operate the same route daily
 All vehicles have ramps accessible from the kerb-side for wheelchair travellers.
 Escorts and drivers receive appropriate training in lifting and basic first aid
 All vehicles are issued with mobile phones for use by the escort so help can be summoned in an emergency.

Behaviour
What happens when pupils misbehave on school transport
The Authority has a procedure for dealing with children who misbehave on school transport. If the term ticket held by a pupil is in any way discretionary, e.g. post-16 or Spare Seat, then withdrawal of the ticket and the requiring of alternative transport arrangements to be made could be a reasonable course of action to take following consultation with the school. Such alternative transport could be at the expense of the pupil or their parents.

Alternative Arrangements
Will I be provided with independent travel training if I face difficulty with transport?
The Local Authority (LA) encourages local education providers to support independent travel training for young people aged 16-19 as part of the curriculum. St. George's School and the IW College have trained staff that can offer this service to their students. If the student is eligible for Transport and meets the criteria, this will be included in their Education, Health and Care Plan.

Are there any travel concessionary tickets available for Post-16 students on local bus services on the island?
Southern Vectis offer variable discounts on their multiday/period tickets for students aged 16-19. For further details please see the Southern Vectis website as detailed below:
https://www.islandbuses.info/

What help can I apply for if I choose to travel to a Post-16 course that is on the mainland?
The student should contact the establishment that they will be attending to enquire about accessing the Post-16 bursary.
Wightlink Ferries Student Fares allow students who are 16 to 18 years old and in full-time education at a mainland college, can apply for an academic season ticket. For further information please see the Wightlink website as detailed below:

http://www.wightlink.co.uk/iow/go/tickets-prices/season-tickets/
Red Funnel Student Saver tickets allow students who are 16 to 18 years old and in full-time education at a mainland college to travel on a reduced ticket rate. Students can apply online at:
http://www.redfunnel.co.uk/ferry-travel/frequent-travellers/hi-speed-saver-tickets/
Hovertravel offer a School Academic Year Season Card for students in full-time education travelling across the Solent on a daily basis. Students over 16 years of age can download an application form from the Hovertravel website, as detailed below:
http://www.hovertravel.co.uk/pages/regular-travel-cards/

What help is available for me if I attend a further education institution which is beyond daily travelling distance and I need residential accommodation?

The student should contact the establishment that they will be attending to enquiry about access.