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

Name of LEA: Education Walsall

Department Responsible: Planning, Admissions and Transport

Please provide details of all concessionary fares, discounts, subsidies, passes or travel cards available for students aged 16-19 and who provides them. Please provide details of any costs to the student.

Young people aged 16-19 are issued with the Connexions Card at the end of year 11. This provides discounts on travel and learning materials as well as offers with various retail and commercial companies.

16-18 year olds in full-time education who live within the West Midlands can obtain a Centro Card. The card costs £5 and enables the holder to purchase child rate season tickets for bus travel.

16 to 18 year olds in full-time education who obtain a Centro Card can purchase a Term Plus Travel Card. This costs £67 for 20 weeks travel and gives travel all day including weekends and holidays. A Term Plus card including travel on the metro costs £80 for 20 weeks travel.

Travel West Midlands offer Student Travel Cards which are available for students in full-time education and give unlimited travel on all Travel West Midlands bus services in the specified area during term time and during the holidays. A Metro Add-On can also be purchased for travel on the Metro. The Cards are available to students aged 16-19 who do not qualify for the Centro 16-18 photocard. Travel West Midlands have split the region into four Zones, ABCD and different types of travel card permit travel across different combinations of these zones. Walsall is Zone A.

The Regional Student Travel card allows travel in all 4 regions and costs:

Termly £120
Summer Holiday £60
3-Term £300

An add-on is available for this card which includes travel on the
Metro, the total cost of the card with add-on is:

Termly £146
Summer Holiday £73
3-Term £365

The Birmingham and Black Country Student Faresaver Card covers travel in three zones, including the majority of out of borough areas to which students living in Walsall might wish to travel for educational purposes, this costs:

Termly £104
Summer Holiday £52
3-Term £260

The Black Country Student Card covers travel in areas A and D, which includes travel to Lichfield and costs:

Termly £86
Summer Holiday £43
3-Term £215

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

The Travel West Midlands Regional Student Travelcard and Metro Add-On, Birmingham and Black Country Student Faresaver and Black Country Student Card are valid all day, seven days a week but are not valid on Night buses.

The Term Plus card is valid for travel at all times.

3. Please confirm that support will continue to be made available to students who reach 19 whilst continuing on a course.

Transport is provided for the year in which students reach the age of 19.

4. How will students be assessed to see if they are eligible for support? e.g., means testing or must they be on benefits?

For pupils who were Statemented at the age of 16, Education Walsall's Special Needs Assessment Policy and Planning Service (SNAPPS) will assess the transport needs of a student continuing in full time education.
5. What help do you provide for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities including those over 19 or students facing other difficulties in following their courses?

Education Walsall provides free bus passes for 16 to 19 year old Statemented students at Castle and Jane Lane Special Schools. These are intended to enable the students to complete their courses and to develop independence skills.

6. Do you provide mobility/independence training for students who face difficulty with transport?

Walsall Special Schools provide independence training for their students as appropriate to their individual needs. Some statemented children who attend Special Schools take a Post 16 Life Skills course at Walsall College of Arts and Technology and Education Walsall provides these students with free bus passes.

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

When a pupil is statemented SNAPPS decide whether transport provision is required and if appropriate issue a request to the Planning, Admissions and Transport team. Transport requirements are reassessed at each Statement Review. Statemented pupils do not apply for transport support themselves.

Travel West Midlands Student Cards can be purchased at any time. The 3-Term can be purchased from September for the current academic year.

Centro cards can be purchased at any time.

8. What help can students apply for if they need to travel to a course that is beyond your LEA area?

The travel cards listed in Section 1 provide travel within Walsall and across the West Midlands area.

9. What help is available for students who attend a further education institution which is beyond daily travelling distance and they need to stay away?

Some Statemented pupils attend Post 16 out of borough educational provision at Special schools. These pupils' needs are assessed by SNAPPS to determine the level of support required which is then funded by Education Walsall.
10. Please provide information about all points of contact for students seeking transport support, e.g. LEA/college, bus company contact. Please include any websites and e-mail addresses.

Planning, Admissions and Transport team
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Connexions Prospects
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