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

Name of LEA: HALTON

Department Responsible: Children & Young People's Directorate/Transport Co-ordination

1. 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.

Riverside College Halton (*)

Students attending Riverside College Halton (at any campus) for courses in excess of 450 hours per academic year and who live over 1.5 miles from their chosen campus have the opportunity to purchase either an Arriva (North West and Wales) or Halton Borough Transport Ltd. bus pass. This discounted pass costs the student £20 per half term and allows unlimited 7 days per week travel on either Arriva (North West and Wales) or Halton Borough Transport buses. Please note that passes are not interchangeable between Arriva (North West and Wales) and Halton Borough Transport services. Students should apply for passes at the time of enrolling.

The College also provides the following dedicated bus services to their campuses during term times:

- Bridgewater Shuttle: Runcorn Old Town – Bridgewater Campus and return
- Service 914 Liverpool - Halewood – Cronton Campus - Kingsway Campus (Operated by Town & Country)
- Service 40 Hale Village – Cronton Campus (Operated by Halton Borough Transport Ltd)
- Service 45 Huyton – Cronton Campus (Operated by Halton Borough Transport Ltd)
- Service 61B Elton / Helsby / Frodsham – Cronton Campus (Town & Country)
- Service 61C Murdishaw – Cronton Campus (Operated by Halton Borough Transport Ltd).

Travel on Halton Borough Transport buses will be free to students who purchase a Halton Borough Transport pass. Travel on the 914 is subsidised, at £1 per journey. Travel on the 61B is subsidised.

Further information is available from Riverside College Halton Student Services 0151 257 2020

St Chad's Catholic High School & Language College

This School is well served by frequent local bus services (Services 21/61/62/82A/X30/79C). For further information contact the School 01928 564106 or Traveline on 0870 6082608.
Saints Peter & Paul Catholic High School

This School is well served by frequent local bus services (Services 2/14/79C/82A/82B). For further information contact the School 0151 4242139 or Traveline on 0870 6082608.

Other FE establishments

Students should apply to their chosen college to establish what transport support is provided.

Halton Borough Council receives funding from the Learning & Skills Council and this funding is delegated direct to the schools with sixth forms as detailed above.

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

There are no time restrictions placed on any of the above bus passes.

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

The above conditions will apply for students reaching the age of 19 until the end of the academic year.

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

The only means testing applies to Education Maintenance Allowances (EMAs). Halton resident students can apply for an EMA. EMA is a weekly payment of £10, £20 or £30 a week depending on your household income. The money is intended to help with the day-to-day costs when you stay on at school or college – such as travel, books and equipment for your course.

Further information on EMA is available at: www.dfes.gov.uk/financialhelp/ema

Any other transport concession listed above is not subject to means testing.

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?

Halton Borough Council may provide assistance with transport for students with statements of special educational needs.

For further information contact the Children & Young People's Directorate, SEN Assessment Team on 01928 704350

Halton Community Transport operates a fully accessible minibus service to colleges in Halton. Fares are charged equivalent to local bus fares, and the colleges may provide assistance with any travel costs.
For further information contact Halton Community Transport on 0151 257 2410.

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

Halton Borough Council also offers independent living travel training for students who require additional support. The Council's Neighbourhood Travel Team provides this innovative new scheme.

For further information contact the Neighbourhood Travel Team on 0800 1953 173.

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

Students should start to apply for transport support at the time of enrolling.

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

Halton Borough Council is currently reviewing the provision for students travelling to a course that is beyond Halton where the course attended cannot be offered within Halton. It is anticipated that where funding from alternative sources (i.e. the establishment the student is studying) or any other alternative sources is not available, the Council may consider, on merit, applications for assistance with travel. Students should note that it is anticipated that any applications received will be subject to means testing.

For further information contact Halton Borough Council on 0151 424 2061.

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?

As part of the Learner Support Fund, the Learning Skills Council (LSC) operates two schemes for students who need to study away from home.

Residential Bursary Scheme

Residential bursaries are funds available to learners attending 1 of 51 designated residential bursary colleges, most of which are agricultural, horticultural or art and design. Funds can be used for learners on full time courses of 10 weeks or more in an academic year. Funds can be used by the institution to pay for residential accommodation, on or off campus, and in part for transport costs.

Residential Pilot Scheme

The Residential Pilot Scheme introduced in September 2002 allows students to attend a specialist course that is not available within reasonable daily travel of their home. Residential costs of up to £3000 (£3500 in the London area) and associated travel costs can be funded for the duration of the course (to a maximum of 3 years).

In order to be eligible, learners must be applying for a full time course at level 3 or above, i.e. equivalent to A levels or higher. Once a course has been chosen, the
learner should contact the Learning and Skills Council Greater Merseyside (tel 0845 0194150) to establish that a similar course is not available locally.

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.

Traveline

For comprehensive information on public transport services (local bus and rail) operating in Halton and across the North West of England please contact the Traveline on 0870 608 2 608 (Textphone 0870 2412216). Lines are open from 8am – 8pm daily. Alternatively information is available on the Halton Borough Council web site www.halton.gov.uk/publictransport.

Halton Neighbourhood Travel Team

Halton Borough Council’s Neighbourhood Travel Team (NTT) can also help to advise learners on how best to travel to six form and colleges. NTT can also offer tailored personalised journey plans suited to the individual needs of the learners. For further information please call the Neighbourhood Travel Team on 0800 1953 173 between 08.30 – 17.00 Monday to Fridays.

National Rail

For comprehensive information on all local and national rail services please contact Nationalrail on 08457 484950 or www.nationalrail.co.uk. Learners wishing to travel by rail may purchase season tickets between stations. For further information please contact Nationalrail.

Learners wishing to travel by rail may purchase a Young Persons Railcard (which entitles the holder to discounts on most rail tickets) if aged between 16-25 or a mature student, over the age of 26 and in full-time education. If aged 26 or over, you'll need to provide proof that you're a full-time student at a recognised school or college. This has to be over 15 hours a week and for at least 20 weeks a year. You can either show an ISIC card or have the ‘Mature students only’ section of the application form completed and certified. Applications can be made on line on the Nationalrail website or at any staffed rail station.

Local Bus Services

“Halton Hopper” Bus Ticket

Halton Borough Council administers the “Halton Hopper” multi operator bus ticket, which is valid on all participating operators local bus services within Halton. The ticket is priced at £13 and is valid for one week’s travel. Tickets can be purchased either from:
- Any Halton Direct Link shop;
- Runcorn Tourist Information Centre;
- Halton Direct Link 0151 907 8300 (24 Hours);
- On line at www.halton.gov.uk/publictransport.

A student version of the ticket may be introduced in September 2006, up to date
information can be obtained from any of the above.

**Arriva**

Arriva (North West & Wales) sell weekly tickets valid for travel on any Arriva local bus service in the North West and Wales area (current weekly price £14). These can either be purchased from the driver on any Arriva bus or Pay point outlet. Arriva also offer a one-day Halton Zone Ticket priced at £2.70. This ticket can be purchased from the driver and is valid on all Arriva services within Halton.

In addition, Arriva (North West and Wales) also offer full time students, studying at any university, HE/FE college or sixth form college the option of purchasing an Arriva Student Ticket. The current price of the Arriva Student Ticket per term is £65 or (£59 on line).

*For further details contact the Arriva (North West & Wales) on: 08701 20 10 88 or www.arrivabus.co.uk.*

**Halton Borough Transport Ltd**

Halton Transport operates a comprehensive network of local bus services across Halton and to surrounding major centres of Liverpool, St. Helens and Warrington. Halton Borough Transport Ltd offers a Day Ticket, which is valid on any Halton Borough Transport Ltd service (including cross boundary services outside of Halton), with no time restrictions. The current price of the Halton Borough Transport Ltd Day Ticket is £3, and can be purchased on bus.

*For further information on any Halton Transport service please contact the Company on 0151 423 3333 or www.halontransport.co.uk.*

**First Group**

First Group operate services between Runcorn and Chester / Ellesmere Port.

*For further information on times and fares please contact FirstGroup on 08708 500 868.*

**Travel to Colleges in Merseyside**

For students travelling to learning establishments in Merseyside, Merseytravel sell a range of area season tickets, including Term Time Student Tickets. *For further details contact the Traveline on 0870 6082608 or visit the Merseytravel web site – www.merseytravel.gov.uk.*