



**DORSET POST-16 TRANSPORT SUPPORT POLICY
SEPTEMBER 2019 - AUGUST 2020**

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1 Post 16 Provision

The Education and Skills Act 2008, states that young people are **required to stay in education, training or enter employment until they are 18.**

When making decisions about which course, school or college to attend parents/students **must** consider:

- **the different modes of transport available to them**
- **the timings for arrival and departure**
- **how much it will cost them?**

There is no automatic entitlement to home to school or college transport once a student is over 16 even if free transport has been provided in the past.

Dorset County Council is committed to supporting Young People in accessing Post 16 education and training and in addition have put the following provision in place to support this.

1.1 School Sixth Form Transport

All School Transport into Mainstream Dorset Schools that have 6th Form provision is provided by independent bus companies under contract to Dorset County Council.

If you wish to purchase a seat on one of these services, you are required to contact the bus company directly. The availability and charges are at the discretion of the relevant bus companies.

School	Contractor	Contact Details
The Blandford School Ferndown Upper School Queen Elizabeth School Lytchett Minster School The Purbeck School Shaftesbury School The Thomas Hardy School Allenbourn Middle School Dorchester Middle School Ferndown Middle School St Michaels Middle School West Moors Middle School	Go South Coast (operating as Morebus and Damory)	01202 338420 http://passes.gosouthcoast.co.uk/
Beaminster School	First Wessex	01305 783645



The Sir John Colfox School The Woodroffe School		dorsetschools@firstgroup.com
Sturminster Newton School	Vale Coaches	01963 363000 valecoaches@gmail.com
Gillingham School The Gryphon School	South West Coaches	01935 475872 Schools@southwestcoaches.co.uk
Budmouth College All Saints Wey Valley	Public Services provided by First Bus	0871 200 2233 www.firstgroup.com

1.2 Bursary Scheme

Each School and FE College has a Mandatory Post 16 Bursary (16-18) scheme. Eligibility for accessing these bursaries is managed by the individual schools. Some schools also provide other forms of support for Post 16 students to assist access to their place of learning.

Please contact the school or college directly for further information and charges. PLEASE SEE APENDIX A or B

There is also further information on the Bursary Scheme through the following website:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/advice-for-young-people-16-to-19-bursary-fund-guide>

1.3 FE College Transport

Colleges have transport routes available to help students access their course. It is important to contact the college to find out what is available and apply to them directly as soon as possible to ensure that transport is available for the start of the course.

Those attending Post 16 FE provision may also apply for a seat under the Surplus Seat Travel Scheme, if there are routes that wholly or partially assist a young person in accessing their Post 16 place and they fulfil the criteria set out in Section 3. They may also qualify for further assistance under Section 2.

Contact the college to find out if there is any support available for transport from the 16-19 Bursary. **PLEASE SEE APPENDIX B**



1.4 Apprenticeships and Traineeships

If a young person is looking to engage with an Apprenticeship or Traineeship, it is essential they talk to the Learning Provider who will be able to inform them of any transport assistance that may be available. Employers and Learning Providers should take into account a young person's transport arrangements when planning any off the job training, particularly outside normal working hours. **PLEASE SEE APPENDIX B**

If you are studying a traineeship you are also eligible for the 16-19 Bursary Scheme.

1.5 Public Transport

Some local public transport operators have concessionary fares/discount schemes for students.

Transport Operator	Telephone	Website	Special arrangements for students
First Great Western	08457 000 125	www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk	16-25 railcard
Go South Coast/Morebus	01202 338420	www.morebus.co.uk	passes.gosouthcoast.co.uk
Damory	01202 338420	www.damory.co.uk	passes.gosouthcoast.co.uk
First Group	0871 200 2233	www.firstgroup.com	Contact Bus Operator
Transdev (Yellow Bus)	01202 636110	www.bybus.co.uk	Contact Bus Operator

There are some situations where a young person travelling on public transport may be entitled to a free bus pass for off peak travel if they have a disability. Details are available at www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/travel-dorset/bus/national-bus-pass-concessionary-travel

2 Travel assistance for students aged 16-18 with Special Educational Needs, Disabilities or Compelling Medical Circumstances

2.1 Criteria for additional support



Young people aged between 16-18 and fulfilling the criteria set out in Section 3 may also be provided with additional support when:

- A professional assessment clearly indicates that a young person would not be able to access existing public transport routes to a place of learning because of their SEN or disability, and meet the qualifying criteria.
- A young person is within the 3 mile distance criteria of a school but a professional assessment clearly indicates that a young person would not be able to access to their place of learning because of their SEND or disability.

2.2 Supplementary information

Types of assistance that may be provided are:

- PTB's – Personal Travel Budgets (only applicable to children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan or Statement of Special Educational Needs).
- Contract Bus/County Council Fleet
- Mini Bus
- Taxi
- Vehicle used by other County Council directorates
- Fuel contribution, if it is shown to be a cost effective solution (Families should be prepared to use their own vehicle where there are no suitable or appropriate alternative arrangements in place). The rate paid to families, is for the shortest available driven route only (13p per mile x return journey/s)

2.3 The Terms and Conditions

Provision of dedicated transport is subject to the following conditions:

- Assisted transport will only be provided for one inward and one outward journey to/from college at the beginning and end of the college day. This may not be according to the start and finish of the timetable day.
- Assisted transport will only be provided between the same pick up/drop off points each day. If other destinations are required this will be parent/carer preference which they will have to organise and pay for.
- Transport is not provided for induction or taster days or work experience.
- If students move outside of the Dorset County Council area part way through their course, transport assistance will cease and they must apply to their new Local Authority for assistance.
- The County Council expects students to travel by public transport where it is available. Independent Travel Training may enable students to progress to using buses and/or

trains. Please contact the school or college who may be able to access limited funds through Dorset County Council to support this activity.

- Students who travel on contract bus routes or taxi with other students, have no choice as to the time for outward or return journeys

2.4 Application process

Applications for transport assistance must be received by the SEN Team, Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ, by 31 May prior to the start of the course. A young person must re-apply for transport for each year of study.

2.5 Charges and Contributions

All young people will contribute towards the cost of transport. For 2019/2020, Dorset County Council has set this amount at £715.

If the family is on Maximum Working Credits or the student is entitled to free school meals, this will be reduced by 50%, consistent with the overall Post 16 Transport provision. (See Section 3)

In exceptional circumstances, the eligibility criteria with regard to 'live over 3 miles from their nearest and/or appropriate school/college' may be dis-applied for a young person with significant disability and/or mobility need and the contribution would be reduced by 50%.

Students that are currently studying a course which they started prior to September 2017, will not be charged a contribution for travel assistance.

3 Post 16 Reduced Rates for the Surplus Seat Travel Scheme

Dorset County is committed to supporting families in accessing Post 16 education and has in addition set up the Local Authority 16+ Assistance Scheme whereby a Post 16 student can qualify for a 50% reduction in the cost of their travel pass (including those passes provided by the OSOO Contractors) or a 50% reduction in the £715 contribution towards transport provided by Dorset County Council.

In order to qualify for assistance under the Local Authority 16+ assistance scheme **all students** must meet **each of** the following criteria:

- Be resident in the Dorset County Council area



- Be under 19 on 31 August immediately preceding the start of the academic year or up to 25 if a Section 139a/Education, Health and Care Plan highlights transport is a necessity
 - Live over 3 miles from their nearest and/or appropriate school/college
 - Be in full time education (16 hours or more over 3+ days per week)
- AND**
- Families are in receipt of Maximum Working Tax Credit/ Universal Credit, or the student is entitled to Free School Meals
- OR**
- The student had a compelling medical circumstance prior to post 16 which attracted transport support and a case is made for it to continue (applies to nearest school/college only and supporting evidence from the appropriate Medical Officer will always be required)
- OR**
- The student has a compelling medical circumstance that arises during post 16 education (applies to nearest school/college only and supporting evidence from the appropriate Medical Officer will always be required).

Supplementary information:

- Assisted transport is only available for one inward and one outward journey to/from school/college at the beginning and end of the school/college day. This may not be according to the start and finish of the timetable day.
- Assisted transport will only be provided between the same pick up/drop off points each day. If other destinations are required this will be parent/carer preference which they will have to organise and pay for.
- Transport is not provided for induction or taster days or work experience.
- If students move outside of the Dorset County Council area part way through their course they must apply to their new Local Authority for assistance.

4 **Post 19 Transport**

Under Section 508F Education Act 1996 where a Local Authority considers it necessary for a young person between 19-25 to have travel assistance (Section 139a/Education, Health and Care Plans so highlights) in order to access an education institution or training, then the LA is required to provide free travel assistance.

5 **General Terms and Conditions**

5.1 **When can a travel pass (public transport) or OSOO Seat be used?**



- If travelling on coaches or other contract transport arrangements, which do not involve season tickets, there will be no choice over the outward or return journey details.
- If travelling with a season ticket these are usually available for use between designated stops and journeys and at an agreed time, morning and afternoon.
- Some bus operators have introduced a fare card system which allows travel in the evening and at weekends at a reduced cost. Check with your school/college or local bus operator.
- Opportunities for tickets, which can be used across transport providers, are not generally available.

5.2 Out of County Colleges which are beyond daily travel distances

If you are attending a college that is a considerable distance away from the Dorset County Council area you should enquire directly to the college about transport support arrangements. Further details can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/grant-bursary-adult-learners>

5.3 Complaints

Please refer to 5.1 in the Home to School Transport Policy for the complaints procedure.

5.4 Consultation

The Home to School Transport Policy and the Post 16 Transport Support Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to reflect the changes to costs associated with SSTS fares. If further changes are required Dorset County Council will consult with young people and their parents through the consultation pages contained on Dorset for You.

5.5 References

Please refer to other sections within the Dorset Home to School Transport Policy for further information on:

- 2.1 Methods of Transport
- 2.2 Journey Times
- 2.3 Pickup and Drop off Points
- 2.5 Personal Luggage
- 3.1 Advice for Parents
- 3.2 Advice for Children
- 5.1 Complaints
- 5.2 Transport Appeals.





APPENDIX A

Further information on the 16-19 Bursary scheme is available through the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/advice-for-young-people-16-to-19-bursary-fund-guide>

Schools and Sixth Form Provision

School, address	Telephone, email, website	Travelling to/from
Budmouth Technology College Chickerell Road Weymouth DT4 9SY	01305 830560 cockingsj@budmouth.dorset.sch.uk www.budmouth.dorset.sch.uk	Awaiting Further Clarification on their 2018 Bursary arrangements
Beaminster & Sir John Colfox Sixth Form Provision	https://www.colfox.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/SJC-and-Beam-Joint-Sixth-Form-Bursary-16-19-Bursary-Fund.pdf	The Joint Sixth Form provides both the Guaranteed Bursary to those who fit the statutory entitlement. There are also discretionary bursaries that will support a range of students to remain in Post 16 education including travel.
Ferndown Upper School Cherry Grove Ferndown BH22 9EY	01202 871243 cindylalani@fernup.dorset.sch.uk www.fernup.dorset.sch.uk	For information regarding the Free Bournemouth Bus service, please contact the school for details. Other routes require a bus pass purchased through Dorset County Council. A bursary option is available to support sixth form students from low income families, which can be used towards the cost of transport. Please direct all enquiries to the school.



<p>Gillingham School Hardings Lane Gillingham SP8 4QP</p>	<p>01747 822222 hlewis@gillingham.dorset.sch.uk www.gillingham.dorset.sch.uk</p>	<p>There are two modes of transport provided by the school; the first is a 57 seater bus that collects students from the Wincanton area and the second is a minibus carrying 16 students (predominantly sixth formers). The routes taken are specific to the majority of students that apply per year. Please direct all enquiries to the school. Financial assistance forms are available through the school office for parents who are struggling with transport payments. The applications are based on whether they qualify with regard to the benefits they receive and their individual circumstances. The total cost of transport is not covered but a sum is normally allocated to reduce the overall cost. Please direct all enquiries to the school.</p>
<p>The Gryphon School Bristol Road Sherborne DT9 4EQ</p>	<p>01935 813122 office@gryphon.dorset.sch.uk www.gryphon.dorset.sch.uk</p>	<p>The school contracts a number of buses to transport students from the surrounding areas. For the academic year 2016/17 a transport subsidy is offered to sixth form students using these buses. In addition, sixth form students from low income families can apply for a 16-19 Bursary, which can be used towards the cost of transport. More information about 16-19 school transport can be found on the school's website.</p>
<p>Queen Elizabeth's School Wimborne Minster BH21 4DT</p>	<p>01202 885233 office@qe.dorset.sch.uk www.qe.dorset.sch.uk www.qe.dorset.sch.uk/Bursary-Information</p>	<p>QE have a bursary scheme that will support students in accessing 6th Form provision.</p> <p>The 16-19 Bursary for QE is intended to support the most vulnerable students in Post-16 education. In order to access this fund, a student must be on a full-time programme of study and fulfil one of the 4 categories below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children in care. 2. Care Leavers. 3. Young people in receipt of income support. 4. Disabled young people in receipt of Disability Living Allowance and Employment Support Allowance.



<p>Thomas Hardye School</p>	<p>https://www.thomas-hardye.net/pages/sixth_form/bursary.php</p>	<p>The School provides a range of Bursaries to support those leaving Year 11 to stay on in education. There are 4 tiers of Bursary as well as an Education Support Grant. There is the High Priority Bursary for those in Care, on Income support or Universal Credit and those disabled young people on Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance. There are 3 tiers of the Discretionary Bursary, all of which can contribute to the costs of the course as well as transport. Further details please follow the link.</p>
<p>St Peters School St Catherine's Road Bournemouth BH6 4AH</p>	<p>01202 437204 sixthform@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk www.st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk</p>	<p>School buses are available to enable students to travel to the school. A student financial support package is available based on income. If students meet the set criteria, and have good attendance, they can get help with travel costs, costs of book and trips etc. Please direct all enquiries to the school.</p>
<p>Shaftesbury School & Sturminster Newton High School</p>	<p>Shaftesbury & Sturminster Sixth Form http://shaftesburyschool.co.uk/sixth-form/</p>	<p>Financial Support for Sixth Form Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Shaftesbury and Sturminster Sixth Form the bursary fund is used to support students remaining in post-16 education when financial issues might impact on their time in the Sixth Form. We aim to do this in the following ways. • Students who the government has identified as 'highly vulnerable' such as students looked after by the local authority, care leavers, students who receive Income Support [in their own right] and those entitled to both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance will receive a bursary in three termly instalments. • Students who are eligible for free school meals or who come from families with a household income of below £21,000 will be able to apply for assistance to meet educational needs such as the cost of transport to school, equipment and educational visits. Once it is established a student is eligible for support, payments will be made from the bursary fund each term, but it is not guaranteed that the fund will be sufficient to pay all needs in full. • If sufficient funds are available we may also be able to provide some support to students on a family income of £21-30,000. • If sufficient money is available after all identified needs have been met we will also provide a termly lump sum payment to all students eligible for support under the scheme to go towards the general costs of remaining in education.



<p>Woodroffe School Lyme Regis</p> <p>Tel: 01927442232</p>	<p>http://www.woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk/</p>	<p>The school runs a Learner Support Bursary Scheme. The aim of this grant is to provide some financial support towards educational costs for eligible students who are aged 16-18, currently attending the Woodroffe School sixth form and following a full-time course. The grant may be used, for example, to help towards the costs of school transport, uniform, books, equipment, materials, study/field trips or educational visits. It may take the form of vouchers for the school shop, direct payment for school events and visits or payment towards school transport. Some payment may be made directly to the student via BACS. Receipt of this and future payments will be dependent on student attendance, punctuality and commitment to learning. Grants will be made each half term or as appropriate.</p> <p>The Learner Support Bursary is available for any students who require financial support for their education, particularly if they are from a family on a low income and/or in receipt of child tax credits.</p> <p>Contact the school directly for an application.</p>



APPENDIX B

Further information on the 16-19 Bursary scheme is available through the following website:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/advice-for-young-people-16-to-19-bursary-fund-guide>

Colleges

College, address	Telephone, email website	Support Provision
Kingston Maurward College Dorchester DT2 8PY	01305 215032 jason.hughes@kmc.ac.uk www.kmc.ac.uk	<p>The College operates subsidised double decker buses (Go South/Damory) and minibus service (NORDCAT Minibuses) for students with pick up points across the county and the Somerset and Wiltshire borders. Travel timetables are assessed each summer to accommodate as many students as possible from across the catchment area.</p> <p>Final timetables are produced just before the start of the Autumn term. The total cost of travel for students can be paid in full or via a monthly standing order and payment are taken monthly from October to May inclusive. Bursaries are available from the college for those families on a low income and in some cases the local authorities will assist with funding transport for certain applicants meeting their set criteria. Although some of our transport has facilities for disabled access, please contact the College direct to discuss alternative methods of transport for any student with disabilities. The College operates a strict code of conduct for all students travelling on College transport. Students will be expected to sign this code of conduct during their enrolment week. It also operates a 'Bus Buddy' scheme to help make travelling a happy and stress free experience and support any vulnerable students.</p>
Weymouth College Cranford Avenue Weymouth DT4 7LQ	01305 764766 peter_atkins@weymouth.ac.uk www.weymouth.ac.uk	16-18 Guaranteed Bursary – provides a guaranteed bursary for the academic year. There are conditions attached and refer to the College website for full details. Designed to support those in Care, Care Leavers, those on income Support/Universal Credit and those receiving Employment Support Allowance and Disability Allowance. This support could include support for travel costs.



		<p>16-18 Discretionary Bursary – This is income assessed and details are available from the College Website. This is applicable for those from households with an income below \$35,000, resident in the EU for 3 years (and other residency requirements).</p> <p>These bursaries are designed to support transport, book and other costs related to the course of study.</p>
<p>Bournemouth & Poole College North Road Parkstone Poole BH14 0LS</p>	<p>01202 205660/205362 studentfinance@bpc.ac.uk www.bpc.ac.uk</p>	<p>Student Financial Support 16-18 year old students Vulnerable and Discretionary Bursaries; including College Meal and Travel Support At Bournemouth & Poole College, we can support with the cost of your course and travel costs. If you are a student who is either in care or leaving care, you would be eligible to apply for a vulnerable bursary, which could include a monthly payment, paid direct to you to help you with those little extras, as well as receiving a College Meal Card and Travel Pass. Discretionary bursaries are for those students who have a lower income within their families and are currently receiving one of the benefits stated in the criteria (http://www.thecollege.co.uk/student-support/student-finance).</p>
<p>Brockenhurst College Lyndhurst Road Brockenhurst SO4 7ZE</p>	<p>01590 625533 travel@brock.ac.uk www.brock.ac.uk</p>	<p>Eligibility: Students may be assisted from the Discretionary Bursary Fund if they meet the following criteria: Aged 16-18 at the start of the course. Studying a state funded course at Brockenhurst College, including our skills centres (most 16-19 full time programmes meet this criteria). Living in a household where the total annual household income is less than £21,000. Level of funding offered: For example, a student who qualifies for a Discretionary Bursary (i.e. lives in a household where the total annual income is less than £21,000) will be eligible for: A contribution of 50% towards a College Travel Pass. Funding towards items confirmed as essential by Heads of Department. This could include uniform items, CRB check, UCAS application fee for University, core text books and course-related trips.</p>



<p>Yeovil College Mudford Road Yeovil BA21 4DR</p>	<p>01935 423921 michelle.dennett@yeovil.ac.uk www.yeovil.ac.uk</p>	<p>16-19 Bursary Funds</p> <p>A Guaranteed Bursary is currently available for learners who are in care, care leavers, receiving Income Support or receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance.</p> <p>A Discretionary Bursary is available for learners with a household income below a certain level, currently £30,000 for 2015/16. These awards are intended to help with financial barriers which may be associated with some course costs. Please note these funds are not available to students on waged apprenticeships.</p>
<p>Wiltshire College Salisbury Southampton Road Salisbury Wiltshire SP1 2LW</p>	<p>01225 350035 info@wiltshire.ac.uk www.wiltshire.ac.uk</p>	<p>Travelling to Wiltshire College</p> <p>All Students who are under 19 and live more than 3 miles from college are entitled to subsidised transport to Wiltshire College.</p> <p>If you live in Wiltshire, and are under 19 and live more than 3 miles from the College campus you will attend, you can apply for a subsidised bus pass from Wiltshire Council, as long as the college is your nearest provider of the course. A Post 16 Transport Application is available to download from Wiltshire Council at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schoolseducationandlearning/schoolsandcolleges/schoolstransport/transporttosixthformsandcolleges.htm/ Alternatively, you can pick up a copy from Student Services at your designated campus or contact Wiltshire Council on 0300 4560100 to post you a copy.</p> <p>Bus passes last for one academic year only and you can APPLY NOW. Please ensure you return the application form to Wiltshire Council by 30th June, particularly if you wish to pay by instalments. Late applications are considered, but may mean your pass is not available for the start of term.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <p>All travel passes last for one year only. Students returning to College need to re-apply each year</p> <p>Students unsure about whether to take up their place at College should apply for a bus pass. Any money paid to the County Council will be refunded if you decide not to enrol</p> <p>Any student who is refused a Wiltshire Council pass should apply to the College for support. Please contact student services on 01225 350035 or apply as per the information below.</p> <p>Students travelling to Chippenham who live in Devizes should not apply to Wiltshire Council but should complete a Wiltshire College Devizes Transport Application instead which is available to download here. Your pass will be issued subject to the same conditions as a Wiltshire Council pass.</p>



		<p>Students travelling to Lackham who live in Swindon, Bath, Somerset and North East Somerset should complete a Wiltshire College Lackham Transport Application instead which is available to download here. Please contact Student Services at Lackham for further information on 01225 350035.</p> <p>Students living in Hampshire or Dorset and travelling to Salisbury who are attending their designated college, or any student travelling to Salisbury who is not eligible for a Wiltshire Council bus pass should apply to the college for travel help. Students can apply for either a subsidised Salisbury Key Card for bus travel and the application is available to download here or for a College Public Transport Award for help with train costs which is available to download here.</p> <p>Students travelling to Trowbridge and living in Somerset can buy a subsidised bus pass called a County Ticket from Somerset County Council. You can apply and pay in full on-line by credit/debit card, or in full by cheque or spread the cost in 10 equal payments by Direct Debit if you have applied by 7th August. Please contact Somerset County Council on 0845 345 9155 or www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/public-transport/county-ticket/ for further information.</p> <p>Students travelling to Trowbridge who live in Bath and North East Somerset can apply for a College Public Transport Award for help with train costs which is available here to download.</p>
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