



Home to School Transport Policy including the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement

Consultation questions

Name of Local Authority: Buckinghamshire Council

Department Responsible: Children's Services



The consultation is open: 12 October 2020 to 07 December 2020

We want to hear from you

Before you complete the questionnaire please read the consultation documents and the proposed Home to School Transport Policy and associated Post-16 Transport Policy Statement.

We would like to hear your views on our proposals and invite you to complete this short questionnaire.

If you would like to receive a paper copy please contact us by email at H2STpolicyconsultation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or call 01296 382891.

You may also be interested in attending one of our online consultation engagement events to find out more information about the consultation and ask questions. You can see more details of these events at <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/schools/htst-2021-consultation/>

Please be assured that the information you provide here will be used only for the purposes of this consultation, will be kept confidential and will be stored securely in line with data protection laws.

Step 1 – Tell us about you

1) Are you a parent/carer of children/young people in education (By education we mean attending nursery, school, college or other further learning)?

- Yes
- No (go on to question2)

a) What is your full postcode?

b) Please select the age group(s) that apply to your children

- Early Years (0-4 years)
- Reception(4-5 years)
- Years 1- 6 (Primary aged 5 -11)
- Years 7 -11 (Secondary aged 11- 16)
- Years 12-13 (Post-16 aged 16 -18)
- Year 14 (Post-16 aged 19)
- Age 20-25

c) Do your children receive Council organised transport?

- Yes they all do
- Some do and some don't
- No, none of them do

d) Do any of your children have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please give their age(s) in the box below

GO TO QUESTION 4

2) Are you a student aged 16 -19 (or up to 25 if you have special educational needs and disabilities)?

- Yes
- No (please move onto question 3)
- I'm not sure

a) Are you attending an education setting in Buckinghamshire?

- Yes (Please select from the following)
 - Special School
 - Mainstream school
 - Grammar school
 - College
 - Buckinghamshire Independent education provider
 - Other (please say which one)

- No (Please select from the following)
 - Special School outside of Buckinghamshire
 - Mainstream school outside of Buckinghamshire
 - Grammar school outside of Buckinghamshire
 - College outside of Buckinghamshire
 - Independent education provider outside of Buckinghamshire
 - Other outside of Buckinghamshire (please say which one)

b) What is your full postcode? If you're not sure or don't want to tell us, you can leave the box blank.

c) Please select the age group you are in

- Years 12-13 (Post-16 aged 16 -18)
- Year 14 (Post-16 aged 19)
- Age 20-25

d) Do you have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, with an Educational Health and Care Plan?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

e) Do you use Council arranged transport?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

GO TO QUESTION 4

3) If you are not a parent/carers or student, please select from the following categories:

Transport professional (select from the following)

- Taxi Operator
- Mini Bus Operator
- Bus Operator
- Other – please tell us more

Educational Professional in Buckinghamshire (select from the following)

- Special School Head/ teacher or other representative
- Mainstream school Head/ teacher or other representative
- Grammar school Head/ teacher or other representative
- College Head/ teacher or other representative
- Buckinghamshire Independent education provider
- Other – please tell us more

Educational Professional outside of Buckinghamshire (select from the following)

- Special School Head/ teacher or other representative
- Mainstream school Head/ teacher or other representative
- Grammar school Head/ teacher or other representative
- College Head/ teacher or other representative
- Buckinghamshire Independent education provider
- Other – please tell us more

Other (please let us know in the box below)

Step 2 - Your views on the proposed changes

The next set of questions relate to the proposed Home to School Transport Policy.

There are no major changes proposed for the Home to School Transport Policy. We are asking for views on proposals to update the content of the main Policy by providing clarification and more detail to some parts of the Policy. These are highlighted in yellow in the Home to School Transport Policy document.

They are:

- The revised layout and content of the Policy reflecting the student’s journey from age 0-25 years and the support available at each stage. This aims to make information clearer for families.
- Clarification that where an annual fee applies, every child, irrespective of whether they are from the same household, will be charged for.

- Clarification on ‘nearest suitable school’ and the need to express this school as one of the preferences to qualify for consideration for transport; therefore making it clear that it doesn’t need to be the first preference.
- Clarification on the Spare Seats Scheme and the way that spare seat allocations are prioritised.

4) Is the proposed Home to School Transport Policy and the above clarifications easy to understand?

- Yes, it is easy to understand
- No, it is not easy to understand
- Partly – some of it is easy to understand, other parts are confusing

Please provide any further comments below.

5) Is there anything you feel is missing from the proposed Home to School Transport Policy?

- Yes, please give details below
- No

The next set of questions relate to the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement

The key changes we are consulting on are highlighted in yellow in the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement. These are:

- The revised layout and content of the Policy reflecting the student’s journey from age 0-25 years and the support available at each stage. This aims to make information clearer for families;
- Three potential options for parents / carers of students aged 16–19 with Special Education Needs and Disabilities to consider. These relate to how transport would be arranged and paid for from September 2021;
- Clarification of the eligibility criteria for travel assistance for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities;
- A change in how travel assistance applies to 19 year olds with SEND. Any students who are continuing on a course of study that they started prior to turning 19 will be required to make a payment towards their transport costs;

- More information about how any outstanding payments would be managed i.e. Transport will not be provided for the following year until payment of any outstanding fees from the previous year have been made.
- Clarification on the Spare Seats Scheme and the way that spare seat allocations are prioritised.

6) The Post-16 Transport Policy Statement describes the 3 options for Post-16 SEND students that relate to how their transport could be arranged and paid for.

a) Which of the 3 options for arranging transport and charging/payments do you prefer? (Please rank with number 1 being your favourite option and number 3 being your least favourite option).

Option	Rank (1-3, 1 being favourite option)
Option 1- Distance Banded system – minimal change to the existing system used	
Option 2 – Choice of annual fee or Personal Transport Budget	
Option 3 – Personal Transport Budget only	

b) Please let us know why you ranked your choices in that order.

c) If you are a parent/carer or student, would you like to have more freedom and choice to organise your own transport arrangements?

- Yes
 No
 I'm not sure

d) If you are a parent/carer or student, how likely is it that you would take up a Personal Transport Budget if it was available?

- Very likely
 Likely
 Unlikely
 Very unlikely
 Don't know
 Not applicable

e) Do you have any further comments on Personal Transport Budgets?

7) Is the proposed Post-16 Transport Policy Statement and the above clarifications easy to understand?

- Yes, it is easy to understand
- No, it is not easy to understand
- Partly – some of it is easy to understand, other parts are confusing

Please provide any further comments below.

8) Are the eligibility criteria for travel assistance for students with SEND clear and easy to understand?

- Yes, easy to understand
- No, not easy to understand
- Partly – some of it is easy to understand, other parts are confusing

Please provide any further comments below.

9) Is the information about travel assistance for 19 year olds with SEND clear and easy to understand?

- Yes, it is easy to understand
- No, it is not easy to understand
- Partly – some of it is easy to understand, other parts are confusing

Please provide any further comments below.

10) Is the information about how outstanding payments will be managed clear and easy to understand?

- Yes, it is easy to understand
- No, it is not easy to understand
- Partly – some of it is easy to understand, other parts are confusing

Please provide any further comments below.

11) Is there anything you feel is missing from the proposed Post-16 Transport Policy Statement?

- Yes, please give details below
- No

12) Do you have any other feedback that you would like to share with us about the proposed Home to School Transport Policy and Post-16 Transport Policy Statement?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Updates on the consultation and subsequent decisions will be posted on our consultation website after the consultation closes on **7 December 2020**. The next steps following the consultation closure are also on our consultation website <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/>

How to return your survey

- **Post your paper survey to:**

Helen Fincher

Home to School Transport Policy Consultation

Buckinghamshire Council

Walton Street Offices

Aylesbury

HP20 1UZ

- **Take your paper survey to one of our four main council access points.** You can find more information about these at:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/visit-the-council/>

- The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF
- Walton Street Offices, Aylesbury, HP20 1UA
- Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BB
- King George V House, King George V Road, Amersham, HP6 5AW