



# Home to school transport Changes for September 2021



# School transport is changing

- The Council contracts bus operators to provide school buses for eligible children.
- Contracts are being renewed and we're ensuring new contracts provide best value for money to the taxpayer.
- Many Council-run bus services carry very few eligible children – in some cases none at all.
- We need to focus our resources on our obligation to carry eligible children.

# New commercial school bus routes

- Those routes that carry few or no eligible children are being taken over by bus companies as commercial school bus routes from September 2021.
- These bus companies will sell tickets directly to parents, and are responsible for setting ticket prices at a level which makes their services financially viable.
- [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/commercial-school-buses](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/commercial-school-buses)

# Changes to routes

- Remaining Council school bus services will have changed routes and pick up points to focus on travel for eligible children.
- Average journey times will remain unchanged, but individual journey times may change because of the realignment of routes.
- Timetables for September will be available on the website by 15 August.

# The Spare Seat Scheme

- We're still providing available spare seats to paying parents, though the number available is much reduced.
- Online applications are currently open, and applicants will hear the outcome by the end of July.
- All children who can no longer have a Council spare seat will be able to buy a seat on a commercial service – either one run for school children only or a public bus or train.
- [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/spare-seat-scheme](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/spare-seat-scheme)

# Further information

- Full information on home to school transport for mainstream school buses and transport for pupils with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) can be found at:
- [www.Buckinghamshire.gov.uk/school-transport](http://www.Buckinghamshire.gov.uk/school-transport)
- Parents can contact us via the online web form:
- [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/askclienttransport](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/askclienttransport)