

North Lincolnshire Student Transport Partnership

Policy Statement 2015/16 for students aged 16-18 in further education and students with learning difficulties and disabilities aged 19-25

1. Summary of policy statement and main objectives (this section should give an overview/statement of intent of what the council's transport policy is and what the subsequent desired outcomes are).

The policy is to support students living in North Lincolnshire when they are enrolled on the course*, who are continuing in education after they are 16. We recognise that many students in North Lincolnshire will need to travel considerable distances in order to attend college or school sixth form. The policy aims to ensure students can access courses within our area, and to give additional support, where necessary, to students with disabilities.

**we will not provide support for students who move to North Lincolnshire for the purpose of receiving further education.*

2. Please provide details of all concessionary fares, discounts, subsidies, passes or travel cards available for learners aged 16–18 and who provides them. Please provide details of any costs to the learner.

2.1 Support available to North Lincolnshire students attending school sixth forms in North Lincolnshire, North Lindsey College, John Leggott College or the Humber UTC (in years 12 and 13 only) from North Lincolnshire Council

Support is available for students who need to travel more than three miles to attend a course of further education at a publicly funded institution.

Students must make a contribution of £30 towards the cost of their travel, which will cover the full academic year. This is payable to the council before a bus pass is issued. £20 is charged for a replacement pass.

The support given is normally a pass to travel on public transport from the stop nearest to their home, valid on school/college days only.

We will consider paying mileage allowances to students unable to travel by public transport.

Further information about the council's post 16 student transport policy and how to apply is set out in 'frequently asked questions' on the council's website at

www.northlincs.gov.uk/schools-libraries-learning/schools-colleges-education/school-admissions-transport/post-16-transport/

2.2 Additional support available to North Lindsey College students

Students attending North Lindsey College can apply for Financial Assistance to help them with travel costs. An application form and further help can be obtained from Customer Services by telephone 01724 294030, by e-mail student.revenue@northlindsey.ac.uk, or our website www.northlindsey.ac.uk/for-students/transport

2.3 Additional support available to John Leggott College Students

Students attending John Leggott College should contact the Student Support Centre for advice on the financial schemes available to students please telephone 01724 407042 or email studentservices@leggott.ac.uk Further information on how to get to college can be found at www.leggott.ac.uk/student-life/getting-to-jlc

2.4 Additional support available to students attending South Axholme Academy Sixth Form

Students who are either:

- from outside Epworth and who are closer than 3 miles from South Axholme Academy, or
- from outside North Lincolnshire,

should contact Mr D Odlin (Sixth Form administrator) in school to request help with transport costs.

2.5 Additional support available to students attending Humber UTC in years 12 and 13

Students attending Humber UTC can apply for Financial Assistance to help them with travel costs. An application form and further help can be obtained from Jane Legge by telephone 01724 297993 or by email j.legge@humberutc.co.uk

2.6 Support available to students attending school sixth forms or colleges outside North Lincolnshire

Students will be expected to attend courses within North Lincolnshire but we will consider applications for transport support to other colleges in some circumstances, e.g.:

- Where it would unreasonable to travel to a North Lincolnshire provider and the journey to the out-of-county college is much easier
- If the course is unavailable in North Lincolnshire and is essential to the student's career progression. Even though the course in North Lincolnshire may not be exactly the same as the student's preferred course elsewhere, if it provides the student with the same opportunity to follow a higher education course or entry criteria for their chosen career, transport support will not be provided to the course elsewhere.
- If the school/college out of our area is nearer to the student's home and the transport costs no more

The distance from home to the out-of-area college should be no more than 25 miles (except for students with learning difficulties and disabilities whose placement has been agreed by the council, and it is the nearest suitable course.) If the distance exceeds 25 miles but the student meets the other eligibility criteria transport support may be provided for part of the journey, e.g. from a convenient bus stop en route.

The support to eligible students will be the same as that for students attending school sixth forms and colleges in North Lincolnshire, and the same financial contribution will apply.

2.7 Support available to students attending The Grimsby Institute

The Institute may offer support for students who attend there. Further details are available on their website or from their information centre.

Grimsby Institute information centre : 0800 315002
www.grimsby.ac.uk/16-19/gettinghere.php

2.8 Support available to students attending Franklin College

The college may offer support for students who attend there. Further details are available on their website or from their student services.

Franklin College student services : 01472 875000 ext 772
www.franklin.ac.uk/student-support/transport.aspx

2.9 Support available to students attending Bishop Burton College

The college may offer support for student who attend there. Further details are available on their website or from their transport manager.

Bishop Burton College: transport manager: 01964 553022
www.bishopburton.ac.uk/college/parent-information/free-transport

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

This depends on the operator and route the pass is issued for. Students have to pay the appropriate fare if they travel outside normal term dates, e.g. at half term, unless attendance at college during these times is compulsory and essential to their course and we receive a letter of authorisation from the college in good time to enable us to inform the bus operator.

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

Support is available for a maximum of three years to students who are under 19 when they start their course, except for students with learning disabilities or difficulties who may be entitled to support after they are 19 years of age (see section 6 below).

5. How will learners be assessed to see if they are eligible for support? e.g. means-testing or must they be on benefits?

There is no means testing. However, eligibility is subject to the student living in North Lincolnshire when they are enrolled on their course, and:

- Having 'settled' status and being ordinarily resident in the UK for at least three years before the course starts, or

- Being a national of any European Union country and being ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area for at least 3 years before the start of the course
- Living more than three miles from school or college when measured according to the nearest walking route

Students who move to North Lincolnshire for the purpose of receiving full-time education may not be eligible for transport support.
 Students wishing to attend a course outside North Lincolnshire may not be eligible for support (see 2.6 above.)

6. What help do you provide for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities including those over 19 or learners facing other difficulties in following their courses?

Students who:

- Had a statement of special needs at school
- Have learning difficulties or disabilities
- Have medical needs
- Are aged **16-20** on 31 August prior to the course starting

and are unable to travel to their course independently, using public transport or other means, or who need extra time to complete their course because of their medical need or disability, may be eligible to receive additional support with their transport. The college and North Lincolnshire Council or the Education Funding Agency (EFA) must support the student's attendance on the course and we must have evidence that they will gain educational benefit from it.

Support available to students who are able to use public transport is covered in section two above. They may also be eligible to receive free public transport under the national scheme.

The course must be at a school or college within North Lincolnshire unless:

- It is funded by the EFA or the council
- The course is not available in North Lincolnshire, and there is no suitable alternative locally
- It would be unreasonable to travel to a college in North Lincolnshire and access to the out of county college is much easier
- The course is nearer and transport costs no more

Support available may be specialist transport, with or without an escort, subject to risk assessment. Where students attend residential placements, support will normally be a mileage allowance for an approved number of return trips per year.

The same contribution towards the cost of transport is required as for students without learning difficulties and disabilities. See section 2.1 above.

We would only consider providing support for students aged 21 or more on 31 August, up to the age of 25, if they were attending a residential course funded by a recognised public body, such as the EFA.

Further information about the council's post 16 student transport policy for students with disabilities is on the council's website at:

www.northlincs.gov.uk/schools-libraries-learning/schools-colleges-education/school-admissions-transport/post-16-transport-for-students-with-disabilities/

7. Do you provide mobility/independence training for learners who face difficulty with transport?

Independent travel training is provided for some students who attend St Hugh's Communication and Interaction Specialist College, North Lindsey College and John Leggott College.

Some independent travel training may be available for students in year 9 and above who attend mainstream schools.

8. When should learners start to apply for transport support?

Students should start to apply for transport support as early as possible. If we receive their application by 31 July we will ensure their travel pass will be available for the start of the autumn term.

Passes will be sent to the North Lincolnshire college the student is to attend for them to collect, or posted to home if their course is outside our area or they are attend Brigg, Baysgarth, or South Axholme sixth forms.

9. What help can learners apply for if they need to travel to a course that is beyond your council area?

As explained in section 2.6 above, we will consider applications from students wishing to attend a course outside North Lincolnshire. They should enclose a covering letter to support their case with their application form.

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

No support is provided unless the student had a statement of special needs when they were at school and whose residential placement has been approved by the council or EFA. As explained in section 6, we may offer a mileage allowance in such circumstances.

11. Please provide information about all points of contact for learners seeking transport support, e.g. LA/college, bus company contact. Please include any websites and e-mail addresses.

For queries about:

North Lincolnshire Council's transport policy and eligibility, and to apply and pay online: 01724 297218, www.northlincs.gov.uk/schools-libraries-learning/schools-colleges-education/school-admissions-transport/post-16-transport/

Public transport: 01724 297460, or Traveline 0871 2002233
www.travelineeastmidlands.co.uk

John Leggott College: student services: 01724 407042
www.leggott.ac.uk/student-life/getting-to-jlc

North Lindsey College: Customer Services: 01724 294030

Email: student.revenue@northlindsey.ac.uk
www.northlindsey.ac.uk/for-students/transport

Brigg Sixth form:

Sir John Nelthorpe - 01652 650624 www.sirjohnnelthorpe.co.uk

The Vale - 01652 652908 www.valeacademy.org.uk

Baysgarth Sixth form: Student Support Centre: 01652 635904

www.baysgarthschool.co.uk

Humber UTC: Jane Legge: 01724 297993

Email j.legge@humberutc.co.uk

Bishop Burton College: Transport Manager: 01964 553022

www.bishopburton.ac.uk/college/parent-information/free-transport

South Axholme Academy Sixth Form:

Mr D Odlin (Sixth Form administrator) – 01427 872121

www.southaxholme.doncaster.sch.uk

Wheels 2 Work North Lincolnshire : 01724 296472

E-mail: w2w@northlincs.gov.uk

www.northlincs.gov.uk/jobs-business-regen/working-life/wheels-2-work-north-lincolnshire/

12. Appeals and complaints

Students who wish to appeal against a decision made about their transport support taken by the council should contact us by telephone on 01724 297218, or e mail: school.transport@northlincs.gov.uk We will send you an appeal form and explain the appeals process.

You can also make a complaint about the way in which your application for support was handled by the council by contacting the above number, a Local Link Office, or telephoning 01724 297000. Details of the council's complaints policy are available on the website: www.northlincs.gov.uk/community-advice-and-support/local-link-offices/complaints/

If the complaint relates to the college or school sixth form students should contact them directly.