

# Post 16 Transport Policy

## Summary for Students and Parents

Every Council has a duty to publish a Post 16 Transport to Education Policy, this applies to further education students who are aged 16,17 and 18 when they start their further education or training course.

The full transport policy statement is available on the Council's web site at <https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/post-16-travel>.

The policy statement explains the transport and financial support available to help Post 16 students via colleges, local transport providers and national government.

Students and their parents are expected to explore these options before applying to the Council for transport assistance.

## Transport Assistance from Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

The Council does not have a statutory responsibility to provide transport support for Post 16 students, but will, in exceptional circumstances, offer some discretionary help for students with an EHCP. Students can apply for Post 16 travel assistance if:

- they live within Redcar & Cleveland and have an Education Health and Care Plan;
- They are aged 16,17 or 18 on 31<sup>st</sup> August of the year that their learning programme commences.
- They are attending the nearest establishment offering a course that the Council considers suitable to meet a student's needs and career choice, or that is a pre-requisite for entry into higher education where applicable.
- are attending a full-time further education course (up to and including Level 3) that requires at least 12 hours guided study per week at a college or school; a course of at least 16 hours guided study per week that leads to an apprenticeship or a Foundation Learning Programme funded by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.
- And have no other means of travelling to their education.

### Transport will not be provided where:

- The student is travelling less than 3 miles.
- The student is attending an out of borough education establishment (however travel to out of borough education may be considered when a young person has a range of learning and disability needs which require



a complex and bespoke package of support and the identified education establishment is the closest provision that can provide for their needs).

### Other considerations

- Where students are in receipt of the mobility element of Personal Independence Payment (PIP) or have a Motability vehicle named for the student, parents will need to evidence why this support cannot meet the student's travel needs.
- Applicants must provide information and evidence as to why the young person cannot travel independently, for example via public transport or college bus.
- Where transport is provided, pick up and drop off times will be arranged for the start and end of the college day. Times will not be adjusted to accommodate individual timetables or for any other reason.
- The Council will decide the type of transport assistance to offer, this will be limited to the most cost-effective travel support/option and may include independent travel training.
- The responsibility for making and covering the cost of appropriate transport arrangements to education for people aged over 16 rests primarily with the student and/or their parent/carer. The Council will take into account a parent/carer's ability to provide or arrange transport when establishing if there are exceptional circumstances. Working commitments and caring responsibilities for other children will not constitute exceptional circumstances. Many parents balance work commitments with child care responsibilities and this is not considered to be exceptional. Similarly, parents who do not have access to a vehicle will not automatically be entitled to transport assistance.

To apply for Post 16 Travel Assistance please use the application form on the Council's website <https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/post-16-travel>

Please review the eligibility criteria in full before making an application which is set out at point 5.6 of the policy.

Applicants will be advised if they are eligible within 20 working days of making an application, details about the type of transport assistance offered will be communicated by the end of August.

