
To Parents of West Sussex Year 11 Students

June 2018

Dear Parent or Carer

School/College Transport for All Students aged 16+ September 2018

I would like to advise you about the transport options available for young people of sixth form age in West Sussex who will be attending a school or a college in September 2018. The Council's policy is that it is normally the responsibility of parents to meet all transport costs for full-time students of sixth form age. There is more information on travel and discounts on the council's website at www.westsussex.gov.uk/schooltransport A summary of the reduced travel costs that are available is:

- **Students travelling by rail** on the Southern network are eligible to obtain discounts on season tickets valid for one month or more. Tickets are discounted up to 34% with a minimum payment of £8 a week. Students must buy tickets from Southern online using a Sussex Student Card identity number. The Sussex Student Card is available, free of charge, using application forms on the school transport website www.westsussex.gov.uk/schooltransport The new form will be available before the end of June.

Students travelling on the South Coast line may find the Unizone ticket better value. Information is available from your local railway station.

- **Students travelling by bus** should contact their bus operator for details of student discounts. More information, links and how to plan your journey can be found on the Council's school transport website link above.
- Where schools are served by dedicated school buses, students may apply for a paid for **concessionary seat**. Spare seats on these vehicles may be offered to sixth form students at a charge of **£600 per annum**. Please note, this applies only to contracted school buses and not to public service bus routes.

The application form for a 2018/19 concessionary seat will be available on the 'Paid school transport' section of the school transport website at www.westsussex.gov.uk/schooltransport from the beginning of June. Applications should be made by 3 August 2018.

- **Students from families on a low income**, or who are 'children looked after,' who need help with travel costs, may receive help from the 16-19 Bursary Fund administered by schools and colleges. Please apply direct to the college or school offering the course.

For those students with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

Some students with special educational needs and disabilities who have an EHCP may require assistance with transport to college or sixth form. To be assessed for transport assistance these students **must apply** to the County Council by making a Post-16 application. The application form is at www.westsussex.gov.uk/schooltransport in the Post-16 and college transport section.

There is a contribution of £600 where students with an EHCP are eligible to receive assistance. Families who are assessed as having a low income do not pay this contribution. The Post-16 policy detailing the criteria for eligibility is online on the council's website at the link above. If you have difficulties filling out the online form then please contact us on Post16transport@westsussex.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

David Crockford

Principal School Transport Officer