



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL

TRANSPORT POLICY STATEMENT FOR POST 16 LEARNERS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 - 2025

INTRODUCTION

Under Section 509AA of the Education Act 1996, every Local Authority has a duty to prepare and publish an Annual Transport Policy Statement.

The Statement provides information regarding transport arrangements and support to Learners aged 16 – 18, and Learners up to the age of 25 years old, who have a learning difficulty and/or a disability, whilst they are entering or continuing further education or training.

SUPPORT AND ADVICE FOR LEARNERS 16 - 18

Merseytravel and Arriva offer a range of concessionary fare schemes to enable Learners to travel throughout Merseytravel and the Northwest.

Merseytravel Concessionary Tickets:

Term time tickets are money saving season tickets that can be used on buses, trains and ferries. There are three types of term time tickets; Solo, Trio and Rail pass. There is also “**MyTicket**” for anyone under the age of 18. These tickets can be used at all times and are used on any participating bus operator’s services within Merseyside and Halton

- **Solo term-time ticket** - enables Learners to travel on any bus service in a specific chosen area. They cannot be used on private buses, night buses or coaches. From this year, tickets can be used during half term breaks but cannot be used at weekends.
- **Trio term-time tickets** - enable Learners to travel on any bus, train and ferry. They cannot be used after 8.00 pm Monday to Friday and can only be used during term time.
- **Term-time Rail pass** - enables Learners to travel on trains only in a chosen zone or area. Cannot be used after 8 pm on weekdays, weekends or during school holidays.

- **MyTicket** - is a one-day ticket which can be used numerous times throughout the day and there are no time restrictions. The daily cost of the ticket is **£2.20** and can be purchased on board any participating bus.

Term Time Tickets are available for Learners aged up to the day before their 19th birthday who are in full time education or work based learning.

A ticket can be purchased in advanced but will only be valid at the start of the term. Tickets are not valid during the half term school/college holidays.

The costs of the tickets are as follows:

SOLO -	Weekly	4 Weekly	Term Time
All Areas	£11.00	£37.30	£99.18
TRIO'S			
1 zone	£11.10	n/a	£105.77
2 zones or 1 area	£13.95	n/a	£134.12
3 zones or 1 area + 1zone	£17.90	n/a	£165.17
All zones across the county	£23.30	n/a	£215.77
RAILPASS	Weekly	Monthly	Term Time
1 zone	£10.00	£34.80	£88.50
2 zones or 1 area	£12.35	£43.60	£112.50
3 zones or 1 area + 1 zone	£15.75	£54.25	£138.65
All zones across the county	£20.20	£70.45	£181.90
SAVEWAY	Daily Charge - 1 Area	Daily Charge - All Areas	
Young Person	£2.70	£3.15	N/A

Solo tickets can be purchased from any Mersey Travel Centre, or any Pay Point store.

Trio tickets can be purchased from any Mersey Travel Centre, or any Pay Point store.

A Railpass can only be purchased from a manned Mersey Rail station.

Saveway ticket can be purchased from Mersey Travel Centre, or any Pay Point store.

To find out more information you can speak to the Merseytravel Customer Services team by email, phone or social media at the following:

- Email ask@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk
- Call **0300 131 2881***
- Send message on X using [@Merseytravel](https://twitter.com/Merseytravel)
- Or face-to-face at one the [Merseytravel Centres](#)

You can contact the Team from 7am to 8pm weekdays and 8am to 6pm on Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays.

*Calls to the 0300 number are charged at the same rate as calling a local 0151 number. Calls should also count towards any inclusive or free minutes as provided by most telephone and mobile providers. If unsure, you can check with your service provider to understand what is included with your inclusive package.

Alternatively, you can visit Merseytravel website for more information about tickets and how to apply.

<https://www.merseytravel.gov.uk>

Arriva Concessionary Tickets:

Arriva student and young persons' saver tickets are available to anyone up to the age of 19 or in full time education. All tickets are valid all day every day and offer unlimited travel on Arriva services (unless where stated) in the specified zones. The tickets can be used in the evening, weekends and during half term holidays.

To find out more information about ticket, you can visit;

<https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/ticket-info/student-saver-tickets>

Carmel College:

Carmel College subsidise a number of supported college services travelling throughout the borough and from neighbouring authorities.

To see the updated list of all routes travelling to the College and the cost of a subsidised, visit

www.carmel.ac.uk/applying/student-transport

Financial Support for Learners attending Carmel College

Learners can apply for a General Bursary. The General Bursary is aimed at financially assisting Learners in ways that best fit their needs and circumstances. Awards will be targeted towards those Learners who face the greatest financial barriers to participation. Payments will therefore be tiered (Band A £17,850k or below award £1050*, Band B £17,851-£26,250k award £786* and Band C £26,250-£31,500k awarded £528*) these payments depend on individual financial needs as well as the cost of transport (for those who live outside a 2 mile radius of College),

Transport Bursary

Learners eligible for the General/Targeted Bursary and who live outside a 2-mile radius of College may also receive the Transport Bursary which will provide a termly Arriva Scholar pass, or a yearly Merseytravel pass

Eligibility for General Bursary

Full time Learners aged under 19 at the start of the academic year who satisfy the residency criteria in the ESFA Funding Guidance 2024-25 and meet the following household income-based criteria may apply for the General Bursary: Learners or their parents are in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance (ESA)
- Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit -Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 - Universal Credit

Learners who are in care, or a care leaver, or in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit in their own name or are disabled and in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance (or Universal Credit) and Disability Living Allowance can apply for a **Targeted Bursary**. The Bursary is a fund of £1,400 per year - £140 per month over 10 months, plus transport costs.

To obtain further information go to:

www.carmel.ac.uk/student-services/financial-help-bursaries

Or alternatively contact Student Support Services on 01744 4552200.

St Helens College

Learners who are aged 16 – 18 on a full-time course will be entitled to a Free Arriva bus pass for the complete academic year.

Learners can also apply for a General Bursary or Vulnerable Bursary.

General Bursary – Transport

Support towards travel is available for Learners from households with an annual gross income over £30,000 but no more than £54,000 and have satisfactory College attendance. Learners who fall into this category will be issued with a bus pass and free breakfast.

Vulnerable Bursary (16–18-year-old Learners only)

A cash bursary of up to a maximum of £1,200 per year, for study lasting 30 weeks or more, is available for those most vulnerable Learners. This amount will be pro-rated if it is for learners whose study lasts for less than 30 weeks and/or on a part time basis. The amount of financial support will be determined by a Financial Needs Assessment, undertaken by The Learner Service Manager, which may result in a limited award, or no award being granted.

Payments will be made weekly, in arrears, and students will be issued with a payment schedule.

For additional information regarding financial support, advice and assistance, contact the Bursary Fund Team on 01744 733766, or email: financialsupport@sthelens.ac.uk or alternatively visit their website at:

<https://www.sthelens.ac.uk/student-support/>

Rainford High Technology College

Learners, who attend Rainford High 6th Form College, can continue to travel on the supported school services by completing a travel form provided by the College. Learners can either purchase a Merseytravel Term Time Ticket or pay daily on the service.

For further information contact 01744 885914 or alternatively visit their website at, admin6thform@rainford.org.uk

Other 6th Form Provision

For Learners who are attending other 6th form provision, the appropriate concessionary ticket can be purchased from Merseytravel or Arriva.

To obtain further information, Learners can visit the appropriate 6th Form web site.

Cowley Language College: 01744 678030
enquiries@cowleysthelens.org.uk

www.cowleysixthform.org.uk

The Sutton Academy: 01744 678859
www.thesuttonacademy.org/sixthform/student-support

Rainhill High School: 01744 677205
www.rainhillsixth.org.uk

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNERS:

16-19 Bursary Fund

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is funded by the Government and provides financial support to Learners aged 16-19. There are types of bursary available; one for Learners from vulnerable groups, and a discretionary bursary.

For more information you can go to: www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund

6th Form Colleges and Further Education Colleges:

6th Form Colleges and Further Education Colleges are responsible for awarding bursaries and assessing eligibility for discretionary bursaries, and the frequency of and the conditions for payments.

A Learner who receives a vulnerable bursary will be eligible for a bursary of £1,200 if their course lasts for 30 weeks or more. For courses lasting less than 30 weeks the bursary may be pro-rata. To be eligible for a vulnerable bursary, a Learner must either be one of the following:

- In public care or a recent care leaver
- Be in receipt of Income Support, or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves
- Be in of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right.

Sarah Cowley Educational Trust

Learners can apply to the St Helens Council for an application to access the Sarah Cowley Educational Trust fund.

The main criteria for applying for assistance are:

- Resident within St Helens
- Under the age of 25 on the 1st September prior to the start of the course.

To find out more about the fund contact St Helens Council. Peoples Service, Finance Team on 01744 671821 or 01744 671829 or visit the web site:

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/schools-education/sarah-cowley-educational-foundation/>

SUPPORT AND ADVICE FOR LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND/OR DISABILITIES

St Helens Authority provides assistance with transport to Learners with an EHCP aged 16 – 25, who are undertaking a full-time educational course. Learners must be attending the nearest available institution offering suitable course provision.

Depending on the needs of the Learners, assistance with travel will be one of the following:

- Public Service Travel Pass
- Independent Travel Training
- A seat on a hired vehicle with or without a Passenger Assistant
- Parental mileage

To apply for assistance with transport you can contact the Home to School Transport Team on 01744 671033 or alternatively you can download an application form from;

www.sthelens.gov.uk/schools-education/school-college-transport

All applications must be received by the end of July to ensure transport assistance is provided for the start of the academic year.

Applications are to be returned to:

St Helens Council,
People's Services,
PO Box 512
St Helens
WA10 9JX

Or alternatively, completed applications can be sent to:
schooltransport@sthelens.gov.uk

Appeals Procedure

If an application for assistance with transport is refused, the parent/carer of the Learner can request for their young person's application to be reconsidered. The Local Authority has a 2-stage review/appeals process.

Once written notification has been received that the Learner is not eligible for assistance with transport, the Parent/Carer of the Learner will have 20 working days to submit a **written request – Stage 1** to have the application reviewed by the Principal Officer.

The review will be heard within 20 working days. A written response will be sent notifying the Parent/Carer of the Learner of the outcome.

If the original decision is upheld and assistance is not granted, the Parent/Carer of the Learner will be notified of their right to go to the **Stage 2 - Appeals Process**.

The original application along with the review decision information and any supplementary information will be considered by the Independent Transport Panel. The Parent/Carer of the Learner will have 20 working days from receipt of the review decision to make a written request. Once the request is received, the Panel will meet within 40 days to consider the information. The Parent/Carer will then be notified in writing the outcome of the Panel.

If a parent/carer is not satisfied with the outcome of their Stage 2 Appeal, they can contact the Local Government Ombudsman at www.lgo.org.uk

Independent Travel Training:

To obtain information regarding Independent Travel Training, contact the School Transport Manager on 01744 671034.

A number of Colleges along with organisations provide Learners with Independent Travel Training.

Mill Green Special School offers independent training to Learners who are in years 12 – 14.

To obtain further information regarding this contact them on 01744 678760, or email them direct at millgreen@sthelens.org.uk

Carmel College delivers independent training to Learners who have moderate learning difficulties.

To obtain further information contact them on 01744 452200 or visit their web site at www.carmel.org.uk

Shaw Trust is an organisation that offers Travel Training to individuals who have the desire and potential to move in to training and employment. The organisation will provide travel training for people who are unable to travel independently. Contact them on 01744 454577, or visit their website

www.sthelensgateway.info/organisations/shaw-trust

St Helens Coalition of Disabled People offers Travel Training to individuals. Contact them on 01744 453343, or visit www.sthelenscdp.co.uk

Concessionary Travels Passes

Learners with disabilities can apply for a Disable Persons Travel Pass. For further information contact the Concessions Customer Delivery Team at Merseytravel, P O Box 1976, Liverpool, L69 3HN on 0151 330 1000 or alternatively visit their web page:

www.merseytravel.gov.uk/Tickets/concessions/Pages/Disabled.aspx/

CONTACT INFORMATION:

St Helens Borough Council

School Transport Team
PO Box 512
St Helens
WA10 9JX

01744 671033 (Monday to Thursday 8.45 am to 17.15 pm. and Friday 8.45 am to 17.00 pm)

schooltransport@sthelens.gov.uk

Merseytravel

1 Mann Island
Liverpool
Po BOX 1976
Liverpool
L69 3HN

0151 330 1000

www.merseytravel.gov.uk

Arriva North West

73 Ormskirk Road
Aintree
Liverpool
L9 5AE

08705 275 123 (customer hotline Monday to Friday 08.00 am to 17.00 pm)

www.arriva.co.uk

St Helens College

Customer Relations
Town Centre Campus
St Helens
WA10 1PP 0800 99 66 99

www.sthelens.ac.uk

Carmel College

Prescot Road
St Helens
Merseyside
WA10 3AG 01744 452200

www.carmel.ac.uk

Shaw Trust St Helens

48 Church Street
St Helens
Merseyside
WA10 1BD 01744 751876

www.shaw-trust.org.uk

St Helens Coalition of Disabled People

Nuttall House

Clifton Street

St Helens

WA10 1EX 01744 453343

Email: infor@sthelenscdp.co.uk