

TRANSPORT POLICY STATEMENT FOR LEARNERS AGED 16 – 18 IN FURTHER EDUCATION AND CONTINUING LEARNERS AGED 19 AND OVER

Name of Local Authority: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

1 September 2026 to August 2027

Introduction

This document explains the travel support available to young people in Barnsley who are starting or continuing full-time post-16 education. It sets out the support available to encourage participation and reduce transport barriers.

Under Raising the Participation Age legislation, young people must remain in education, employment or training until their 18th birthday. This could include full-time study, an apprenticeship, work combined with part-time study, or part-time training alongside volunteering. However, compulsory school age has not changed, and there is no entitlement to free transport beyond the end of Year 11.

This statement brings together information from the local authority, schools, academies, colleges and other relevant sources. It aims to provide up-to-date information on travel support, charges and any means-testing arrangements.

Consultation

This transport policy statement is based largely on the Home to School Travel Assistance Policy. It is reviewed each year following consultation with stakeholders, including colleges, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive and service users.

1 Mainstream students

Mainstream post-16 students can access a range of passes and travel cards that offer discounted travel to sixth form, college and other places of learning or training. The most common option is the ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass.

Barnsley MiCard Travel Pass

The Barnsley MiCard Travel Pass will be available to children and young people aged 5 to 18 years old living in Barnsley. Children and young people can benefit from free bus travel anywhere within South Yorkshire, from 7am to 9pm, seven days a week, as long as the journey starts or finishes in Barnsley local authority area. Passes are valid up to 31 July of the school year you turn 18, or 31 July 2027, whichever is sooner.

A Barnsley MiCard travel pass can be obtained at this link: [Barnsley MiCard - Travel South Yorkshire](#)

ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass

A ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass is available giving discounted travel across the region. The pass is also valid during August giving concessionary fares to young people in this age bracket all year round to aid students who are in apprenticeships

Passes are valid for 2 years and will have an expiry date of 31 July of the second year in further education, apprenticeship, or employment.

The concessionary fare is:

£1.00 per single journey on bus and tram

Half price rail fare on Northern rail services A range of operator discounted tickets is available on production of a 16-18 Travel Pass.

Who can get the ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass?

All young people aged 16-18 living in South Yorkshire are eligible, including those in apprenticeship and employment. The pass is free

How to get the ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass

The quickest way to apply for a ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass is online by using a MYTSY account. Full details can be found on the Travel South Yorkshire website:

<https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/ticketspasses/>

ZOOM BEYOND 18-21 TRAVEL PASS

If you are aged between 18 and 21 and live in South Yorkshire, you can apply for a ZOOM BEYOND 18-21 Travel Pass.

The pass gives access to discounted travel products across South Yorkshire.

Discounted fares and tickets vary by operator, so students should check the latest bus, tram and multi-operator ticket prices before travelling.

The pass remains valid until the day before your 22nd birthday, subject to the scheme rules in force at the time of issue.

How to get the Zoom Beyond 18-21 Travel Pass

The quickest way to apply for a ZOOM BEYOND 18-21 Travel Pass is online by using a MYTSY account. Full details can be found on the Travel South Yorkshire website:

<https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/ticketspasses/>

GetAbout ticket

GetAbout is the combined bus and tram ticket for under 18-year-olds who have a valid ZOOM Under 16 Travel Pass, or a ZOOM 16-18 Travel Pass, which enables travel anywhere in South Yorkshire at a fraction of the price of an adult ticket.

Once you've bought your GetAbout ticket you are then able to travel on any bus or tram of your choosing without making any further payment. All you need to do is show the driver or conductor your GetAbout ticket and your valid travel pass. Note that a few school buses do not accept GetAbout - further information is available from Traveline (01709 515151).

GetAbout and GetAbout+ tickets are available for 1 day, 7 days or 28 days. Current prices are: GetAbout – 1 day £3.50, 7 day £12.00 in advance or £13.40 on board, and 28 day £47.70; GetAbout+ – 1 day £5.40, 7 day £19.70, and 28 day £79.20. Further details can be found via <https://www.sytravelmaster.com/>

For learners over the age of 19;

Learners aged 19 to 21 may be able to obtain a ZOOM BEYOND 18-21 Travel Pass. Information is available at:

<https://www.sytravelmaster.com/>

The English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) Disabled Person's Pass enables free travel for those whose disability makes them eligible. For further information, please visit the Council's website at:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/roads-travel-and-parking/public-transport/disabled-persons-travel-pass/>

1.1 Help with Travel Costs

If you need help with travel costs, you may be able to apply for bursary support. Details are set out below.

The 16-19 Bursary Fund

Schools, colleges and training providers may have funds to help students on full-time courses who might struggle with the cost of study. For advice, speak to student support services or your course tutor.

There are two types of 16-19 bursary funds:

1. Vulnerable student bursary

You could get a bursary worth up to £1,200 depending on your circumstances and benefits. Please note Barnsley College call this the Vulnerable Bursary. The Bursary fund can help to pay for costs like:

- Clothing, books, and other equipment for your course
- Transport and lunch on days you study or train. Students must be:
 - Between 16 and 19 at the start of the academic year they want the bursary for.
 - Studying at school or college, or on an unpaid training course.
- Meet residency requirements – your school or college will help with this. You could get up to £1,200 vulnerable student bursary if at least one of the following applies:
 - You are in or have recently left local authority care.
 - In receipt of income support.
 - In receipt of Employment and Support allowance (ESA) and either Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your name.
 - In receipt of Universal Credit in your name and have significant caring responsibilities for another individual.

2. Discretionary bursary

You could get a discretionary bursary if you need financial help but don't qualify for a vulnerable student bursary. Your education or training provider decides how much you get and what it is used for.

Please note that Barnsley College call this the Learners Support Fund.

If you are not in one of these groups, you could still get a discretionary bursary depending on your personal circumstances. Ask at your school, college, or training provider's student support services to see if you are eligible.

More information and how to apply can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund> or at Barnsley Council's website <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/16-19-bursary-fund/>

1.2 Care To Learn

If you are studying and aged under 20 at the start of your course, Care to Learn can help pay for your childcare costs while you are learning.

Care to Learn is available for publicly funded courses in England, including courses at schools, academies, school sixth forms and sixth form colleges.

More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn>

1.3 Traineeships

For students on traineeships, the learning provider is responsible for meeting reasonable expenses where these are needed to remove barriers to learning. This may include the cost of travel to and from the place of learning or work placement. Please contact your learning provider for more information. Students may also be eligible for a bursary (see the Bursary Fund section above).

2 Travel Assistance for post 16 Special Educational Needs and Disabled (SEND) students

This section explains the support available to young people in Barnsley with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who are starting or continuing post-16 education. It sets out the support available to encourage participation and reduce transport barriers. Travel assistance needs are assessed using information in the EHCP, together with information from the school or college, parent or carer, and relevant health professionals. The assessment takes account of the learner's age, mobility and the impact of their SEND on their ability to travel to school or college.

Aged 16 years or older on 1 September.

Over the age of 19 and under 25 years of age on 1 September.

Travel assistance will be provided where the distance between their home and college or training establishment is 3 or more miles measured by the nearest available walking route.

Where the distance to the appropriate school is less than the distances specified above and/or when a student has no EHCP, travel assistance will be considered taking into account the individual circumstances and travel needs of students with significant sensory, medical or behavioural difficulties that prevent them from getting to school or college even when accompanied by a parent or carer.

For learners with an EHCP, transport assistance normally continues until the course ends. In a school this will normally not be later than the school year in which the learner becomes 19. For students over 19, progression in learning must be evidenced against outcomes in the EHCP.

If travel assistance is approved, the local authority will decide the most suitable arrangements to get the learner between home and their place of learning at no cost to them. Support may include independent travel training, a personal travel budget, mileage reimbursement, or transport by minibus or taxi.

If a learner is not eligible for travel assistance, they can obtain a Barnsley MiCard. This travel pass is available to children and young people aged 5 to 18 living in Barnsley. Children and young people can benefit from free bus travel anywhere within South Yorkshire from 7am to 9pm, seven days a week, as long as the journey starts or finishes in the Barnsley local authority area. Passes are valid up to 31 July of the school year you turn 18, or 31 July 2027, whichever is sooner.

To apply for a Barnsley MiCard, please follow this link: [Barnsley MiCard - Travel South Yorkshire](#)

How to apply

You can apply for travel assistance by completing our online application form:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/school-travel/school-travel-for-children-with-special-educational-disability-or-mobility-needs-send/>

If your application is refused

If your application is refused, you can ask us to review the decision by completing an appeal form, which you can find here:

<https://my.barnsley.gov.uk/form/appeal-a-home-to-school-transport-decision/page-1>

For more information about eligibility, please refer to the Home to School Travel Assistance Policy on the Barnsley Council website.

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/16896/home-to-school-travel-assistance-policy.pdf>

Search for information about transport

You can find more information about transport in your area by searching with your postcode using the link

<https://www.gov.uk/subsidised-college-transport-16-1>