

Appendix B – Home to School Transport Policy Consultation

Following the Consultation, the following amendments have been made:

2015/16 Policy

- Page 3 – The Statutory Position. Additional paragraph added:
The Statutory Guidance states that “A child’s “home” is the place where he/she is habitually and normally resident”. Where parents are separated or divorced, entitlement is assessed from the home where the child spends the majority of their time. Where a child spends equal amounts of school days with each parent, travelling from two addresses to school, entitlement will be assessed from both addresses. Evidence may be required.
- Page 6 – Pupils attending a Pupil Referral Unit – para 1 amended to: *Parents may wish to transport pupils themselves. If the pupil is entitled to free transport, a bus or train pass to the Pupil Referral Unit for those pupils who are not attending mainstream schools may be provided. Free transport entitlement is subject to statutory age and distance criteria.*
- Page 7 summary list: add to the summary d) *Post-19 students with an EHC Plan or Learning Difficulty Assessment* (content already in the Policy on page 9).
- Under section 18 – Appeals. Additional paragraph added:
The timings are recommended and not compulsory. We envisage that many appeals will be dealt with much sooner than these timings, particularly those which have a time pressure, whilst complex cases may take longer. Where there is an urgent matter which has safeguarding implications or the case relates to a Looked After Child, the Appeal will be processed at Stage 1 as a priority.
- Under section 18 – Appeals. Clarification added:
Once an application has been considered (including the use of the Appeals process, where applicable), we will not accept a further application for transport for the same child at the same school unless:
 - a) *Your circumstances have materially changed (i.e. change of address, exceptional circumstances see 5b) OR*
 - b) *You believe you are now entitled because the Council’s policy has been amended*

2016/17 Policy

The changes above will also be transcribed into the 2016/17 Policy.

Post-16 Transport Statement 2016/17

No changes.

Fare Payer Scheme 2016/17

- How to apply – para 3: Text amended to “Where there are more applications than available places *from those who do not qualify for a guaranteed place...*”
- How to apply – para 4 – Text amended to “Late applications will be added to the waiting list *in order of receipt...*”
- Waiting List – first bullet removed.
- Spaces on Contracted School Transport and Withdrawal of places on Contract School Transport – text updated to make the guarantee clearer.

September 2015