

Conwy County Borough Council

Transport Policy Statements for Learners Aged 16–19

Who is eligible? Where to apply?

- a) The Authority's policy is to make arrangements to provide students and pupils in full time education of 16 or over and (provided they are under 19 on 1st September) with free transport according to the following criteria:
 - that they live in the County of Conwy, and
 - live over 3 miles from the nearest appropriate educational establishment.

The LEA will also provide transport to the nearest educational establishment that offers a course through the medium of Welsh.

The LEA will assess whether an establishment provides a reasonable range of courses suitable to the abilities, aptitudes and requirements of an individual pupil. Transport will only be provided for an individual to an educational establishment, which is not the nearest if, in the judgement of the LEA, there is a considerable variation between a pupil's requested course and the course on offer at the nearest institution.

Therefore:

- free transport will not be provided for students who choose to follow a course in a school or college other than the nearest area school/ college to their home address where a similar qualification is available.
- if the nearest school/college does not provide the course the student wishes to follow the Authority will provide free transport to the nearest school/ college where the course is available
- the Authority will **not** provide free transport for a student who wishes
 to follow a course in a school / college (where the learner lives more
 than three miles from the school / college) if the same or similar
 subjects are available in a school/ college that is nearer to the
 learner's home address.

- b) Students/pupils are expected to make their own travel arrangements to the transport pick up point when the distance between the home and pick-up point are deemed reasonable. This distance will not be more than three miles and in the large majority of cases will be considerably shorter.
- c) Application for transport to Llandrillo College should be directed to the college. Contact details are provided on page 3 of this document.

Applications to all other colleges should be directed to the LEA. Contact details are provided on page 3 (Schools Services).

Applications for transport to the Authority's schools should be directed to the Transport Officer (Schools Services) provided on page 3 of this document.

Students can submit an application for transport provision at any time from May onwards.

When is transport available?

Pupils at the Authority's schools are entitled to travel on the Authority transport provided at the beginning and end of the normal school day.

Pupils at College are entitled to travel on any designated transport as provided at the beginning and end of the normal college day.

Am I allowed to use free transport when I reach 19?

Free transport is provided to pupils/students who have reached 16 years of age and have not yet reached the age of 19 on 1st September 2004. The free transport will however be maintained for such students for the length of their initial course even if they reach their 19th birthday before the end of that course.

Will I be assessed to see if I am eligible?

Students will be assessed for entitlement to free transport on the basis of the criteria set out in (a) on page 1. No assessment of means is made.

Can I get specialised transport if I have disabilities?

Pupils with Disabilities cannot be treated less favourably than the non-disabled peers and specialised transport will be provided for students with disabilities and/or learning difficulties when specified in the statement of Special Education Needs (or equivalent document).

Pupils/students with statements of Special Education Needs may be provided with free transport where the Authority is of the opinion that such provision is justified.

When identified in the statement of Special Education Needs, transport will be provided for students with disabilities and/or learning difficulties, to travel beyond their nearest area school/college.

Can I apply for transport if the school/college is outside Conwy County Borough?

Students will be provided with transport to a school or college outside County if:

- the relevant school/college is nearer to their home address than a school/college in County and is more than three miles from their home address
- the course the student wishes to follow is not provided by the nearest area school/college or another school/college within the County that is nearer to the learner's home than the school/college to which the student has applied.

<u>Students are strongly advised to contact the Authority</u> to establish whether the above criteria would be met before making a final decision on taking up their course

Can I apply for concessionary Fares

Concessionary transport may be provided if there are any empty seats on an existing contact, these places may be made available for students who do not qualify under the aforementioned criteria.

In such circumstances:

A charge will apply; this charge will be £30 per term and is subject to annual review. These places may be withdrawn if any eligible student who satisfies the aforementioned criteria requires transport.

Application forms available from the Highways Transport Officer (details on page 4)

Can I apply for support if I need to stay away to attend college?

Due to the introduction of new method of financing students of all ages, Conwy CBC's Discretionary Grants Policy will be reviewed in Spring 2005. It is unlikely that additional funding will be available to students travelling daily to college other than the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 16 and 17 year olds and the Assembly Learning Grant (ALG) for students aged 18 or over. Consideration will be given to continuing with the lodging rate of grant for those students attending courses not available within the Conwy boundary e.g. residential agriculture courses.

Contacts for Transport Application Forms and general gueries:

Local College

Applications for transport to Llandrillo College: Transport Officer Coleg Llandrillo College Llandudno Road Rhos On Sea LL28 4HZ Tel No: 01492 546666 Ext No: 410

Schools Services

Transport Officer
Education Department
Dinerth Road
Rhos On Sea
LL28 4UL

Tel No: 01492 575595 / 575592

Fax: 01492 541311

Planning, Transportation arrangements

Public Transport: Transport Officer Highways & Technical Services The Heath Llanfairfechan LL33 0PF

Tel No: 01492 575413/4 Fax No: 01492 575448

Out of County Colleges

Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor, Glynllifon Ffordd Clynnog Caernarfon Gwynedd LL54 5DU

Telephone: 01286 830261 Fax: 01286 831597

Coleg Menai Ffriddoedd Road Bangor LL57 2TP

Telephone: 01248 370125 Fax: 01248 370052

Deeside College Kelsterton Road Connah's Quay Deeside Flintshire CH5 4BR Telephone: 01244 831531 Fax: 01244 814305

Llysfasi College Ruthin, Denbighshire LL15 2LB

Telephone: 01978 790263 Fax: 01978 790468

Welsh College of Horticulture Northop Mold Flintshire CH7 6AA

Telephone: 01352 84100 Fax: 01352 841031

Yale College Grove Park Road Wrexham LL12 7AB

Telephone: 01978 311794 Fax: 01978 291569

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