

Section B

APPLICATION FOR HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT BECAUSE YOUR ARE IN RECEIPT OF BENEFIT.

Reason why transport is required (see next page for benefit related eligibility guidance).

Please tick appropriate boxes and attach any supporting evidence as detailed.

I am registered with the Authority/School as eligible for free school meals (we will check relevant records to confirm that this is the case).

I am in receipt of the maximum level of Working Tax Credit and enclose a copy of my latest Tax Credit Award Notice (form TC602) or a letter from the benefits agency confirming current receipt of maximum Working Tax Credit - **if this is not enclosed your application will be refused.**

National Insurance Number

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Secondary Age Pupils

I wish to apply for transport to the school named in Question 2 which is one of the three nearest suitable schools within 2 to 6 miles from our home address.

I wish to apply for transport to the school named in Question 2 as the nearest school within 2 to 15 miles of our home address, preferred on the grounds of our religion/philosophical beliefs (you must provide supporting written evidence as to why and how the school meets your religious or philosophical beliefs).

Primary Age Pupils

I wish to apply for transport to the school named in Question 2 as the nearest school to my home address and where the distance from home is more than two miles.

Benefit related School Transport assistance

Please note that transport assistance will only be provided until the end of the academic year whilst you are in receipt of the qualifying benefits.

Transport assistance cannot therefore be guaranteed for the entire period of the attendance at the school. Benefit related applicants will need to re-apply each year. Please indicate if this is a renewal application.

Section C

DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

I certify that I have parental responsibility for the child named and that the information given is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false or deliberately misleading information given on this form or in support of this application may render this application invalid and could lead to the withdrawal of transport assistance. I agree to notify the Authority of any change in address, benefit entitlement or any other circumstances which might affect transport eligibility.

Data Protection Act 1998: The information you release to us will only be used for school transport purposes.

Signature Date

TRANSPORT POLICY.

To the normal area school

The Authority provides assistance with transport for full time primary and secondary school pupils to the end of statutory school age who do not live within walking distance of their normal area school. This distance for children under eight years is 2 miles. For secondary age pupils and children over eight years old, the distance is 3 miles. In all cases, the distance between home and school is measured by the shortest available route. Bus passes or refunds are issued where appropriate and special contract transport is arranged if public transport is not available.

To Faith schools

Parents choosing a voluntary aided faith school on religious grounds may be eligible for help with transport if the chosen school is the normal area voluntary school (in most cases the nearest voluntary school) and the school is outside the walking distance as explained above.

In addition, in the case of Catholic schools, only Roman Catholic baptised children are eligible to receive help with travel. In all such requests, baptismal certificates are required as evidence.

The Council has decided to introduce charges for faith school transport with effect from September 2011. The decision was taken to phase in the charges, commencing with new transport users only and protecting existing recipients.

The charge for the 2011/12 academic year will be £317 per annum for a secondary school pupil and £287 per annum for a primary school pupil. A wide range of payment methods will be available for parents including cash, cheque, online credit card and direct debit. Parents will have the facility to pay on an annual, termly or monthly basis. A maximum charge relating to two pupils per household will be observed.

To other schools

Parents who send their children to a school which is not their normal area school will not normally receive assistance with transport (children living outside the County attending Derbyshire schools should apply to their home Council). However, assistance with transport will be provided when a child attends a school, other than the normal area school, which is beyond the walking distance explained above but is closer to the child's home than the normal area school.

Details of the Council's policy on home to school transport is provided in the admissions guides "How to apply for a place at Primary School" and "How to apply for a place at Secondary School", which have already been circulated. To see the policy or apply online please go to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/get2school

Transport for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities

Transport will be provided for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities who attend their nearest school, where the journey exceeds the statutory walking distances as outlined above or in other cases in accordance with the Council's Special Educational Needs Transport policy.

Provision of transport will not generally be made if the preferred school is further away from the child's home than another school considered appropriate by the Council. For more information please refer to the Authority's Special Educational Needs Transport Policy available on the Council's website www.derbyshire.gov.uk.

Please contact the Special Needs Section at County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG (Tel: 01629 536531), if you have any queries.

GUIDANCE CRITERIA FOR BENEFIT RELATED HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT

If your child is of secondary school age (aged 11 to 16, school year 7 to 11) and you are either:

Eligible and registered for free school meals

or

Receiving the maximum level of Working Tax Credit and can provide a copy of the latest Tax Credit Award Notice (form TC602) or a recent letter from the benefits agency confirming receipt of maximum Working Tax Credit.

Your child will have an additional entitlement to transport to either:

One of the three nearest suitable schools to where you live that is between 2 and 6 miles from your home
or

The nearest school that is between 2 and 15 miles from home, preferred on the grounds of the parent's religious or philosophical beliefs.

Road routes will be used for any distance measurements over 3 miles linked to benefit entitlement.

If your child is of primary school age and entitled to free school meals or your family gets the maximum level of Working Tax Credit there is an additional entitlement to transport to:

The nearest suitable school where the distance from home is more than two miles. This distance is measured along the nearest available route.

Behaviour policy

The Authority has a school transport code of good practice. Children should behave properly at all times. It is an offence for anyone to misbehave on school transport, or to do anything which would put at risk the driver or other passengers. Children who create nuisance or cause any damage on school transport may have their transport provision withdrawn.

Full details of the Authority's transport policy is provided in the parents information booklet - "How to apply for a place at secondary/primary school - a guide for parents" copies of which are available from schools, Area Education Offices or Derbyshire's website www.derbyshire.gov.uk.

What type of transport assistance may be offered?

Normally either a travel pass for public transport/contract vehicle hired by the Authority or the payment of travelling expenses. The Authority will decide which type of transport assistance offered. In general, pupils eligible for transport assistance may be required to walk up to one mile to or from a designated pick up/drop off point.

ENQUIRES AND REVIEWS

Any queries about school or college transport should be made to the appropriate Area Education Office.

Please return the completed form to the appropriate **Area Education Office**.

NORTH

Area Education Office

Kents Bank Road, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9HR

(01629) 533474/533471

Area Education Office

Sheffield Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 7LU

(01629) 537607

SOUTH

Area Education Office

Library Building, Grosvenor Road, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 3JE

(01773) 744741
