



Milton Keynes
City Council

MKCC School Travel Support Post 16 Policy Statement.

31 May 2024
Version 1



School Travel Support - post 16 policy

Milton Keynes City Council does not provide universal free School Travel Support for post 16 students who live in Milton Keynes and attend school sixth form, sixth form colleges and colleges of further education. There are however some circumstances where the council has a duty to provide transport at no cost to parents and carers. These are as follows:

Post 16 students with a special educational need or disability

Students with a diagnosed disability or with a special educational need will be considered for Travel support in line with the statutory guidance.

Requests for assistance with transport will be assessed on an individual basis where a student is 16, 17 or 18 years of age before 1 September and:

- Attends full-time at the nearest appropriate school/college that meets their needs:-
 - a school;
 - a further education institution;
 - a local authority maintained or assisted institution providing higher or further education;
 - a 16 to 19 Academy; or
 - at any establishment (not falling within the above categories) at which the authority secures the provision of education or training under section 15ZA of the Education Act 1996.
- Could not reasonably be expected to walk (be pushed) or cycle due to the distance of the route.
- Could not reasonably be expected to walk (be pushed) when accompanied by an appropriate adult due to the safety of the route.
- Not everyone with an EHCP is entitled to School Travel Support.

If two placements can meet need due to same/similar course content, then choosing somewhere due to the environment or layout of the building would be parental preference. Transport would only be considered for the local placement, for example:

Scenario A –

College A in Milton Keynes has an Entry Level 2 Independent Pathways course and so does College B in Northampton. Each college would have its unique environment and plans to deliver the course such as a training flat, access to sports facilities or access to animals. If both Colleges have confirmed they could meet need, transport support would only be considered to College A as courses would gain a similar qualification at the same level.

Families can choose to access College B; however, the transport responsibility would be with the family.

The type of travel offered will depend on the student's needs and will be assessed on an individual basis. It is most likely to be in the form of:

- Additional support to access public transport services including MK Connect
- The offer of Mileage or a Family Led Travel Budget
- The provision of a seat on a commissioned service

Bus Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child and adult pass to use public transport. This is the default offer.• Suitable for journeys within statutory travel times, and for children that can travel of public transport.
MK Connect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Account to use MK Connect for school travel. Option for accompanying adult if required.• Door to door option available where required. Currently being trialled with Post 16 SEN passengers.
Mileage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Termly payment cover anticipated mileage costs.• Suitable for eligible families with a vehicle and ability to get the child to school
Family Lead Travel Budget (FLTB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Termly payment to support family to make arrangements to suit the needs of the family / child (e.g. childcare arrangements, arrange own transport - taxi / friends & family)
Commissioned shared Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transport is commissioned and managed directly by MKCC.• The vehicle will be shared with other children
Commissioned 1:1 transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transport is commissioned and managed directly by MKCC• The vehicle is not shared by other children

Residential placements

Travel from home to a Post 16 residential placement may be provided where the local authority has secured the provision of education or training at that institution and the provision of boarding accommodation in connection with that education or training. Support with travel will apply to the beginning and end of each term and half term (up to 12 journeys per year) and the nature of support will vary according to needs.

Post 16 students and those on a low income

The Department of Education provides a bursary scheme for 16–19-year-olds, administered by schools and colleges themselves. If eligible to access the bursary scheme, funding received can be used towards transport costs. Parents and carers should contact the student finance and welfare offices of the selected school or college to find out more.

Additional information:

Milton Keynes City Council funds substantially discounted transport via the 'All in 1 MK Card'. This enables young permanent residents of Milton Keynes or those who attend school, college, or training establishments in Milton Keynes, and aged 5 to 19, to travel on local public transport at discounted rates.

For more information please visit - <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways-and-transport-hub/bus-and-taxi/bus-passes-and-cards/all-in-1-mk-card-junior-concessionary-travel-scheme>

Colleges may be able to assist with transport costs through their Learner Support Fund.

Appeals

If the decision is that a particular request for support with School Travel Support cannot be granted under the policy, then parents or carers may make an application to ask for the case to be heard by the Alternative/SEN Panel. There are three reasons why this might happen:

- A. The parent/carer believes that the policy has been incorrectly applied.
- B. The parent/carer believes that the policy has been correctly applied, but their child's needs are exceptional and merit consideration outside of normal policy.

- C. Home to school travel has been agreed under policy, but the parent/carer believes that the manner in which it is being provided is inappropriate for their child's needs.

The decision is made by a Senior Officer within the School Travel Support Team based on evidence produced by the parent/carer or local authority representative acting on behalf of the parent/carer. A parent or carer can provide input from an external third party, but this must be submitted in writing along with the application.

If the outcome is not satisfactory to the parent or carer, the next step is for the case to be reviewed by a multi-disciplinary panel who were not involved in the original decision-making process.

If the outcome is still unsatisfactory to the parent or carer, they will need to follow the council's complaints procedure. This can be viewed at:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/your-council-and-elections/comments-compliments-and-complaints/complaints-and-compliments>

Enquiries

School Travel Support
Telephone (01908) 252526

Email: STS@milton-keynes.gov.uk

If you wish to make a comment, compliment or complaint about the council please complete the online form which can be found at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk.

