

## **Current Guidance from Herefordshire Council regarding the provision of School Transport**

### **If your child is attending their nearest school**

We will help your child with home to school transport if:

- They live over three miles from school
- They have income-based free school meals and live over two miles from school
- Their route to school is less than three miles, but too dangerous to walk unaccompanied

We cannot help with transport if you choose to send your child to a school other than one of those designated by the council.

Transport is only available between the school and your home address: you cannot use this transport to take your child to a second address or childcare facilities.

### **Transport assistance for families on a low income**

If your child is at high school and you are in receipt of the highest level of working tax credit or eligible for free school meals, we will offer free transport assistance to any of the three nearest high schools between two and six miles away

### **Not eligible but still want to travel by bus?**

If you don't qualify for free transport you may be eligible for the Vacant Seat Payment Scheme. If there is a spare seat on a bus we may be able to 'sell' that seat to you in return for a termly contribution. The seat may be withdrawn however, with one week's notice, if an entitled passenger requires it. You will be sent details of the cost of contributions for that seat and once your contribution is received your pass will be sent to school for collection on the first day of school. The current full charge for parental contributions in 2018/19 is £789 a year, paid termly at £285 for the autumn and spring term and £219 for the summer term. A pro rata charge is made when not paying for all three terms.

**For further information please contact:**

**Herefordshire School Transport on 01432 260937/31**

**[www.herefordshire.gov.uk](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk)**

**[Schooltransport@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Schooltransport@herefordshire.gov.uk)**

## Current Guidance from Gloucestershire County Council regarding the provision of School Transport

### Eligibility for help with transport costs

Most children and young people **do not** qualify for help with transport and you will have to make sure you can meet the costs of getting your child to school throughout their education.

The County Council will provide help if your child goes to the nearest, or nearest available school to your home address and is;

- 2 miles or more for pupils aged under 8 years.
- 3 miles or more for all pupils aged 8 and over
- you are getting the maximum award of Working Tax Credit
- your child is eligible for free school meals

If you think you are eligible apply for a seat as soon as you get offered your school place.

The County Council will also provide help to low income families with a child aged between 11-16 years attending a secondary school where the pupil:

- attends one of their three nearest secondary schools *and* their home to school distance is between *two* and *six* miles

### Not eligible but still want to travel by bus?

If a school bus is run by GCC and some seats are not yet occupied, you may be able to buy a travel pass, but it is **not guaranteed**. You must apply on-line for this.

If your application is successful, (dependent on spare seat capacity) you will be asked to pay a fee based on the average cost per seat.

For a secondary school pupils the cost of a seat for the academic year 2018/19 is £675 per year.

**For further information please contact:**

**Gloucestershire School Transport on 01452 425387 / 425390**

**[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk)**

**[mainstream@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:mainstream@gloucestershire.gov.uk)**