

If Devon offer me assistance what form will this take?

The transport team will decide the minimum level of support required to remove transport as a barrier to you remaining in education. This may be:

- Independent Travel Training.
- A vacant seat on a contract vehicle.
- A petrol allowance to assist your parents to take you to school or college - the amount to be determined by DCC.
- A parental acknowledgement, which is a payment to assist your parents to make the necessary arrangements to enable you to get to school or college.

Is any free transport available?

No. Any assistance offered by Devon County Council will be subject to a parental contribution.

Will any assistance offered be for the duration of my Post 16 studies?

No. Any assistance offered by Devon County Council will be for that academic year only, or the duration agreed by the local authority if for a shorter period. You will need to re-apply each academic year and a new Assessment of Need will be carried out.



I am over 19 but continuing in education will I be able to ask for assistance?

If you are 19 or over on 1st September you should contact Adult Care and ask for an Assessment of Need to be carried out. Contact **MyDevon** on **0345 155 1007**.

Useful Numbers

Traveline 0871 200 22 33 can help with bus or train information. Their website is **www.travelinesw.com** or you can download their travel app.

National Rail Enquiries 03457 48 49 50 or **www.nationalrail.co.uk** can help with rail information.

Public Bus Service Providers

Axe Valley Mini Travel	01297 625959
Buses of Somerset	0345 6020121
Country Bus	01626 833664
Dartline	01392 872900
Filers Travel	01271 863819
First Dorset / Somerset	01305 783645
Hatch Green Coaches	01823 480338
Plymouth City Bus	01752 662271
Stagecoach Southwest	01392 427711
Tally Ho Coaches	01548 853081
Target Travel	01752 242000
Turners Tours	01769 580242

If you need advice as to which school or college is the nearest to your home, or advice on assistance with your travel to education, please contact **0345 155 1019** or visit **www.devon.gov.uk/school_transport**

Transport for post 16 students

what you need to know



Information correct
November 2016



Am I eligible for assistance from DCC?

Devon County Council does not provide a universal Post-16 assisted travel scheme. It expects that you and your parents will consider how you are going to get to and from college prior to applying and accepting a place.

My parents are not able to get me to and from college.

You and your parents need to explore all avenues available to get you to and from college. This could be walking to college, cycling, car share, public transport, vacant seat scheme (see below), private taxi etc.

Public Transport

Where there is public transport serving a college, it is expected that parents will make their own arrangements to pay for a bus or rail ticket. Contact Traveline on **0871 200 22 33** or visit **www.travelinesw.com** for information on the public bus or rail services in your area.

What is a Vacant Seat?

A vacant seat is where there is a Devon County Council contract vehicle operating to your school or college. If there is a spare seat and there is no public transport you may be offered a seat on a vehicle. This seat will be guaranteed for that academic year. A contribution towards the cost of your travel is required.

I have no way of getting to my school or college.

Where you cannot make your own arrangements to attend a school or college, there is no public transport available and no funding available from the School or College, then you can talk to the transport team about what limited support can be made available. In some cases this will mean that an Assessment of Need will be required and you may need to provide additional evidence to support this assessment. Please call **0345 155 1019**. The normal parental contribution for the academic year will be applied to any support.

My parents are on a low income and cannot afford the cost of a rail/bus pass.

If there is a financial barrier to you remaining in education the school/college should be approached for assistance. Most colleges receive 16-19 bursary funds to provide targeted help to individuals in need. They may exercise their discretion to make financial awards to young people in ways that best fit their needs and circumstances. Bursary awards should be targeted towards young people facing financial barriers to participation, such as the costs of transport, meals, books and equipment.

There is no suitable Public Transport to my school/college.

The expectation is that parents will make the necessary arrangements for you to get to and from college. If there is a school/college contract vehicle you may apply for a vacant seat. You need to make an enquiry at an early stage, by calling **0345 155 1019** and asking whether a vacant seat is available.

There is public transport/contract vehicle but I am not able to travel on it because of my needs.

If you are not able to travel by public transport or on a contract vehicle because of your additional needs, and your parent/carer is able to evidence that without assistance from Devon County Council you would not be able to get to school or college, please talk to your education provider to establish what funding is available. Alternatively, call **0345 155 1019** and ask to speak to the transport team.

What happens next?

The transport team will ask a series of questions to ascertain why you or your parent/carer are not able to make the necessary travel arrangements and the minimal assistance required to remove transport as a barrier to you continuing in education.

How do I know if I'm eligible for help?

- ✓ You must be over 16 and under 19 on 1st September.
- ✓ You must live in the Devon local authority area NOT Torbay or Plymouth.
- ✓ You must be attending a full time Further Education (FE) course.
- ✓ You must attend your nearest appropriate establishment.
- ✓ The journey from home to the main school or college campus must be three miles or more.