

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ!!

Letter from Leicestershire County Council:



Home to School Transport eligibility changes from SEPTEMBER 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Important Notice – changes to Home to School Transport Entitlement Criteria

You may be aware that following 2 public consultations, Leicestershire County Council has adopted a new home to school transport policy that will affect mainstream home to school transport arrangements from September 2015. The full policy, FAQs and other details can be found on our transport website at:

www.leics.gov.uk/school_college_transport

Please note that the new policy means that the traditional pattern of free transport around Leicestershire will in many cases significantly change. Therefore, **do not assume** that just because “transport has always gone from my area to my child’s school” that this will still be the case in future.

The recognition of traditional ‘catchment areas’ will no longer be the case. In brief, free home to school transport will be provided as follows:

- For students aged up to 16 – the legal minimum of free transport for students over the statutory walking distance (3 miles for secondary students) from home to the nearest school with places available. (For addresses around the borders of Leicestershire the nearest school may be in another local authority)

And, in addition to provide:

- Free transport to the nearest Leicestershire school, with places available (a school will not be seen as appropriate if it doesn’t offer a transfer entry point that is compatible with the current school attended by the student e.g 10+ High Schools: see our website for a list of schools that come under this category)
- Where there have been no changes to catchment areas or age ranges since May 2012 to continue to provide free transport to the catchment school in those areas (see website for a list of schools that come under this category)

The Council measures distances with a professional mapping tool (MapInfo) that is not available for free, but families who want to assess which might be their nearest school can use an online mapping tool to give them an approximate indication of distances e.g google maps, AA maps.

Please also note that if any Leicestershire school with available space is within walking distance (3miles for secondary aged children) transport will not be provided irrespective of the school to be attended.

Please check our FAQs first at www.leics.gov.uk/school_college_transport but other queries, preferably by email, can be directed to:

Email: TransportAssessments@leics.gov.uk

Post: Assessments Team, Sustainable Travel Group,

Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RJ

Phone: 0116 3050002