



Help with Home to School Transport

This fact sheet can be made available in other languages or formats on request by contacting 0161 770 6666. For further information please see our detailed fact sheet Information for All.

The Local Authority offer home to school travel support to pupils of primary and secondary school age who live within Oldham and to students aged between 16-25 attending a course of further education at the nearest available college.

What help is available for home to school transport?

Pupils who are entitled for support will normally be offered one of the following:

- Refund of Travel Costs
- Free School Travel Passes
- Bicycle Allowance
- Walking Escort Provision
- Public Transport Escort Provision
- Hired Transport (Taxis or Minibuses)

Who can get free school transport?

Support with the journey between home and school is available to pupils who must travel further than the statutory walking distance to the nearest qualifying school.

What is the statutory walking distance?

The statutory walking distance for pupils aged below the age of 8 is 2 miles. For pupils aged between 8 and 16 the statutory walking distance is 3 miles.

The statutory walking distance is 2 miles for Pupils aged between 8 and 11 who are in receipt of Free school meals or whose parents are in receipt of the maximum level of Working Family Tax Credit.

Who else is eligible for support?

Children who are in the following categories may be eligible for support:

- Pupils entitled to Free School Meals
- Parents who are in receipt of the maximum level of Working Family Tax Credit.
- Pupils who are unable to travel to school due to the nature of the walking route
- Pupils unable to walk to school because of their special educational needs, disability or mobility problem (including temporary medical condition)

My child is aged between 16-19. What support for transport is available?

For a student who was statemented at secondary school and is attending a course at the nearest available college transport assistance will be provided from the list above. Students who have not had a statement of Special Educational Needs can claim for the cost of travel above the concessionary fare. For example, where a pupil must travel on 2 buses to reach college then they can claim back the second bus fare. The student must be attending a course at the nearest available college.

If my child is not eligible for support with the journey between home and school, what can I do?

If your child's situation does not apply to any of the criteria within the transport policy but you feel that their needs require assistance with transport you may apply to the Moderation Panel for transport assistance. The panel will consider applications and a decision will be made on whether transport will be provided. The panel will not consider childminding or work commitments as a valid reason for transport assistance.

How can I find out more about home to school travel?

If you want to find out any more details about support with traveling between home and school please contact us either by:

Writing to:

Senior Officer, Transport and Benefits
Pupil Service
Level 6
Civic Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1XJ

Phoning: 0161 770 3153**Further phone numbers of interest:**

SEN Transport/16-19 Transport Officer/General Transport Queries – 0161 911 4233

Free School Travel Passes Clerical Officer – 0161 770 3209

Pupil Escorts Senior Pupil Escort – 0161 770 3209

Applications to the Moderation Panel and Appeals - Senior Officer,
Transport and Benefits – 0161 770 3153

Fax: 0161 770 4277**Emailing:** hometoschool@oldham.gov.uk

The Home to School and College Transport policy is available to view on the authority's web site at: www.oldham.gov.uk, together with additional information about what support is available with

We want to provide good quality service for people in Oldham and as we are a public service you have a say in what we do. We want you to be completely satisfied with our services but to ensure this we need to know what you think. What do we do best? Where could we improve things? Do you have any ideas or suggestions? Only by listening to you can we give you the service you deserve.

If you wish to make a comment about our services you can e-mail us on customer.feedback@oldham.gov.uk

or you can phone us on 0161 770 4191

or you can write to us: Complaints Officer
Chief Executives Department
PO Box 160
Civic Centre Oldham,
OL1 1UG.

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