



Get Connected (Wiltshire)

Frequently Asked Questions . . .

SEND have commissioned a new project within specialist schools that supports road awareness and safety

Young people will be supported in their specialist school to learn road awareness and safety before gaining practical experience which can lead on to:

- safe road crossing
- independence and travel to school and/or further education

Q. Why this project is happening?

A. To support young people to be more road safety aware with the aim of being able to travel independently to school or college and in their community.

Wiltshire Council is committed to supporting young people to reach the end of their education with the necessary independence skills to enable them to gain employment and to contribute to their community, should they choose to do so. Research shows that a key factor for independence is having the skills and ability to travel as independently as possible.

We have learnt that supporting individuals at a younger age to be road safety aware and how to use public transport creates a smoother transition from school to college.

Q. How will my Child get to School?

A. This will depend upon where your child lives in relation to their school, it could be a combination of walking and public transport.

If the distance is not too far then walking may be the best method. If you live a little further away, then a public bus, train or a college/school bus might be the best mode of transport. A Community Coordinator will support your child's journey and a full risk assessment will be completed as well as a trial journey.

Q. Who will pay for my child to travel to School?

A. It will be the responsibility of the student or their support network to cover the cost of the travel to and from college.

There are different options for this and below are details of bus pass options.

Q. What are the bus pass options? – School/College vs Concessionary

A. There are three different bus passes available:

School Bus Pass

This is free to the young person and can be used to travel to school during term time.

Post-16 Transport Bus Pass

Available to young people with a disability attending college or Sixth Form. It offers travel to and from college during term time. This pass only allows travel on a specific bus route on college days. To apply visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk and download an application form or request a form by telephone. There is a means tested annual fee which can be paid in instalments.

Concessionary fare bus pass

This bus pass can be available to individuals who have a disability and enables free travel on local buses throughout the UK, however this is time restricted and cannot be used before 09:30am so may not be the best option for attending school or college.



Q. How will you keep my child safe?

A. Each student will spend time with a Community Coordinator who will create a support plan that will be agreed by all parties.

A Community Coordinator will have spent time getting to know each customer during the classroom and practical sessions. They will be continually observing and assessing the safety and road awareness of each student to make sure that they will be safe when travelling independently.

Community Coordinators will complete journeys with customers from home to school/college and back. This support will gradually fade as the customers become more independent.

If at any stage, the Community Coordinator feels that customers are at risk or danger then the travel training will be stopped.

Q. How will you support health and vulnerability risks?

A. By collecting detailed and accurate information

Each student will complete a risk assessment with their Community Coordinator and this will consider a wide range of hazards, including:

- crossing roads
- not wearing headphones/listening to music when crossing roads
- what to do if buses are late or do not turn up.

Support networks will be included in this to give a full picture of individual vulnerabilities and needs.

'Safe places' will be explained and local, relevant places will be shown.

In Case of Emergency Cards(ICE) will be given to each student, 'what if' scenarios will be talked through and alternative plans discussed.

Q. How many days will my child travel to School/College by bus when completing Travel Training?

A. It is likely that to begin with one journey a week and increase as confidence grows

Where possible days would be completed on different days each week. As your child becomes more confident then more journeys by bus/walking/train would be completed.

If you have any further questions, please call your Customer Co-ordinator

01225 718004

Employment and Community Skills
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