

## Local Authority Transport Partnership Fund Policy Statement

Transport policy statement for learners aged 16-18 in further education and continuing learners aged 19 and over

**Name of Local Authority: Bracknell Forest Council**

**Department Responsible: Integrated Transport Unit – Corporate Services**

**1. Summary of Policy Statement and Main Objectives (this section should give an overview/statement of intent of what the LA's transport policy is and what the subsequent desired outcomes are).**

Bracknell Forest supports the idea that post 16 students should be encouraged to continue with their education and training wherever possible and suitable.

Bracknell Forest will take into account the needs of students with disabilities and or difficulties who may not otherwise be able to access and/or complete further education.

Bracknell Forest seeks to enable all 16-19 students to access appropriate education and will consider, on an individual basis and subject to funding, applications for assistance as per its published policy.

Bracknell Forest is happy to give students advice both verbally and in writing about the transport options available to them. Further Education colleges can also assist students with information on transport arrangements that they are directly involved with e.g Berkshire College of Agriculture

**2. Please provide details of all concessionary fares, discounts, subsidies, passes or travel cards available for learners aged 16–18 and who provides them. Please provide details of any costs to the learner.**

Bracknell Forest does not provide any concessions for students aged 16-19 with the exception of students with special educational needs.

Bracknell Forest has several local transport companies that operate in the Bracknell area they include, First Beeline, First Great Western and South West Trains. For students of Post 16 age these companies do not offer any partifular discounts but offer tickets that can be purchased on a weekly, monthly or termly basis, instead of a daily basis, which make a slight saving. For these tickets, students would be advised to contact the specific operator direct.

**First Great Western Link**

Tel: 01189 083678

Web: [www.great-western-trains.co.uk](http://www.great-western-trains.co.uk)

**South West Trains**

Tel: 0845 600 650

Web: [www.swtrains.co.uk](http://www.swtrains.co.uk)**First Beeline Buses**

Tel: 01344 868688

Web: [www.firstbeeline.co.uk](http://www.firstbeeline.co.uk)**3. What times during the day can learners use their travel pass or obtain concessionary fares?**

Students would need to contact the operators above direct.

**4. Please confirm that support will continue to be made available to learners who reach 19 whilst continuing on a course.**

Any support given to a student will continue until the completion of the course even if the student attains the age of 19 during that course. However, the source of the support may change.

**5. How will learners be assessed to see if they are eligible for support? e.g. means-testing or must they be on benefits?**

Any schemes operated by Bracknell Forest Council are not means tested. Each request will be considered on an individual basis.

**6. What help do you provide for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities including those over 19 or learners facing other difficulties in following their courses?**

Those students who are continuing to attend special needs schools are fully supported in their travel costs until they reach the end of Year 14. Students over 19 can contact the Community Team for People with Learning Difficulties on 01344-311737 who will provide advice and assistance for them to continue with the courses.

**7. Do you provide mobility/independence training for learners who face difficulty with transport?**

This is provided by the local Connexions team with limited support from the LEA. We do look at each case individually and may provide free transport for the first three to six months but would hope the pupil could move towards independent travel after this time. Connexions will often provide a "buddy" in these cases.

**8. When should learners start to apply for transport support?**

Students need to apply as soon as they become aware that they will have a need for assistance.

**9. What help can learners apply for if they need to travel to a course that is beyond your LA area?**

If these are "Mainstream" students – see response to 2 above

If these are "SEN" students – see response to 6 and 7 above

**10. What help is available for learners who attend a further education institution which is beyond daily travelling distance and they need to stay away?**

If the student's course is beyond reasonable daily travelling distance it is anticipated that they will be eligible for one of the two residential schemes:

- Residential bursary scheme – they should enquire at their college for more details
- Further Education Residential Support Scheme – this is a national scheme and more information can be obtained by contacting the scheme's administrators, Manchester City Council on 0161 234 7076

**11. Please provide information about all points of contact for learners seeking transport support, e.g. LA/college, bus company contact. Please include any websites and e-mail addresses.**

**Bracknell Forest Council  
Integrated Transport Unit**

Tel: 01344 355229

Email: [corporate.transport@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:corporate.transport@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

**First Great Western Link**

Tel: 01189 083678

Web: [www.great-western-trains.co.uk](http://www.great-western-trains.co.uk)

**South West Trains**

Tel: 0845 600 650

Web: [www.swtrains.co.uk](http://www.swtrains.co.uk)

**First Beeline Buses**

Tel: 01344 868688

Web: [www.firstbeeline.co.uk](http://www.firstbeeline.co.uk)

Students can contact the college of their choice to see if any specific arrangements have been made between local operators and the colleges direct.