

Applying for travel assistance

The Council will provide travel assistance to pupils who meet the criteria set out in our policy. This will normally be a bus pass or an equivalent amount of money.

Your child must meet all the criteria 1, 2 and 3	
1	Live permanently in Solihull
2	Be of compulsory school age (Reception to year 11)
3	Attend a qualifying school
Your child must meet either criterion 4 or criterion 5	
4	Live more than the 'statutory walking distance' from his or her 'qualifying school'
5	Be unable to make the journey safely, even when accompanied, to their qualifying school because of their special educational need or disability (subject to assessment of need)

Qualifying school

The qualifying school for a mainstream pupil is usually the catchment-area school. If it is not possible to secure a place at the catchment-area school, the next nearest school with a vacancy is deemed to be the suitable qualifying school.

The qualifying school for a pupil with special educational needs attending a mainstream school is the nearest appropriate school that can meet their needs - this is usually the catchment school.

The qualifying school for a pupil going to a special school, will be the nearest appropriate special school that can meet their needs.

Parents who choose a different school will not qualify for travel assistance.

Statutory walking distance to nearest qualifying school	
Age	Statutory walking distance
Under 8	2 miles
8 or over	3 miles
8 or under 11 low income family	2 miles
11 or over low income family	2-6 miles (one of the three nearest)
11 or over low income family	2-15 miles (nearest school of belief or religion)
Low income family = eligible for free school meals or in receipt of the maximum level of Working Family Tax Credits	

Some families have complex childcare and employment patterns. The council does not provide help simply because it is difficult or inconvenient for parents to get their child/ren to school.

Applications will be processed within 20 school days as it can take this long to set up a new route.

You can read the Home to School Travel Assistance Policy on our website:

www.solihull.gov.uk/schools and follow the link to the transport page from 'grants and funding'.

Contact us: ☎ 0121 704 6610

✉ schooltransport@solihull.gov.uk

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Request for travel assistance



Child's name			
Date of birth			
Address			Post code
Parent's name			
Email			
Home phone		Mobile phone	
School name and address that you need to get to			Post code
Start and finish times	Start:	Finish:	
Date you need transport to start			
Why are you applying for assistance?	<input type="checkbox"/> Criterion 4 - the school is more than the statutory walking distance <input type="checkbox"/> Criterion 5 - my child unable to make the journey safely, even if accompanied, due to his or her special educational need or disability		
What are you applying for?	<input type="checkbox"/> I would like a bus pass for my child or its cash value <input type="checkbox"/> I would like my child trained by Solihull Travel Trainers to learn to travel to and from school independently, on public transport <input type="checkbox"/> I would like a cash payment towards travel expenses and will make my own arrangements to get my child to and from school <input type="checkbox"/> I would like my child to have a seat on a vehicle		
Free school meals or low income?	<input type="checkbox"/> Does your child qualify for free school meals due to low income? <input type="checkbox"/> Are you in receipt of maximum working tax credit? If yes, send a copy of your Tax Credit Award Letter TC602		
Is this a temporary request?	Yes / No		
If yes, explain why and the date you expect assistance to end?	----- ----- ----- -----		
Office use: Decision:	Walking distance:		
Year group at application:	Shortest driving distance:		

