

# North Tyneside Transport Policy Statement 2024/2025



North Tyneside Council

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

## Department Responsible: Commissioning, Partnerships and Transformation

### 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).

This policy statement sets out the way in which North Tyneside Council has decided to exercise its powers and duties in relation to the provision of school and college transport assistance for learners aged 16-19 in accordance with section 509 of the Education Act 1996, as amended by Section 83 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006.

The policy seeks to ensure that no North Tyneside learner is prevented from continuing in further education due to lack of transport assistance or lack of financial support with transport costs. It outlines the provision of transport assistance schemes available for Post 16 learners who live and study in North Tyneside or those who live in North Tyneside and attend an educational establishment outside of the Borough if it is the nearest provider offering the appropriate course of study.

This document sets out the current policy of North Tyneside Council, which it should be noted could be subject to change in the future.

North Tyneside Council supports and encourages safe and sustainable independent travel wherever possible. It promotes walking, cycling and the use of public transport whenever possible but with the emphasis on safety and efficiency. Where the use of public transport is not suitable to meet the needs of students alternative provision may be provided subject to various terms and conditions detailed in North Tyneside Council's Home to School/College Transport Policy.

To support learners, North Tyneside Council, in conjunction with the Home to School/College Transport Policy the Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Executive, Nexus, provides affordable transport options to allow students to travel within the Tyne and Wear area.

**2. Please provide details of all concessionary fares, discounts, subsidies, passes or travel cards available for learners aged 16-19 and who provides them. Please provide details of any costs to the learner.**

All students, whether attending College or 6<sup>th</sup> Form, may be entitled to claim funds from the learning provider through the 16-19 Bursary funding that each provider receives from Central Government. The Bursary Fund is based on individual circumstances and can be used for any expense such as travel, meals equipment or resources for the course.

North Tyneside Council, Student Support process the 16 -19 Bursary on behalf of the following schools;

Beacon Hill School  
Burnside College  
Churchill Community College  
George Stephenson High School  
Longbenton High School  
Monkseaton High School  
St Thomas More Catholic High School  
Whitley Bay High School  
Woodlawn School

Below is the list of criteria

**Who is eligible for the bursary scheme?**

To be eligible, you must:

- Attend a participating school/Local Authority provider in North Tyneside which is part of the scheme (see above)
- Be starting Year 12, 13 or 14 in September 2024
- Be aged between 16 and 18 on 31 August 2024

In addition, there are eligibility criteria for the different levels of bursary available. You only need to meet **one** of the criteria below to be eligible:

**Bursary**

You must be:

- In care
- Have left care having been in care for a minimum of 3 months from the age of 14
- In receipt of Income Support (or Universal Credit)
- In receipt of **both** Employment and Support Allowance (or Universal Credit) **and** Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment

**Bursary – Discretionary**

- Eligible for Free School Meals
- A family in receipt of Tax/Universal Credit
- Families with low household income\*

In addition, we will consider students experiencing hardship, severe need or an emergency. Typically, circumstances could include:

- Recent parental unemployment
- Severe financial hardship
- Other circumstances will be considered (please tell us)

\*Household income is worked out using your earnings/income plus any Tax Credits you receive

For further information and the application form go to the North Tyneside Council website at

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/page/32229/bursary-scheme-20232024>

### **Student 16 – 19 Network One Ticket**

Students in full-time, further education and studying in Tyne and Wear who are aged 16-19 at the start of the academic year (1 September 2024) are eligible for the Student Network One Ticket.

<https://networkonetickets.co.uk/tickets/students-young-people/>

Operated by Network Ticketing Ltd this scheme enables students to purchase a weekly or four weekly travel ticket at 25% discount against the cost of a full price ticket.

The travel tickets provide free travel at school/college times as well as evenings, weekends and holidays. Tickets may be purchased covering a particular zone or number of zones within Tyne and Wear,

Current ticket prices (Sept 2022):

	<b>1 Zone</b>	<b>2 Zones</b>	<b>All Zones</b>
<b>1 week</b>	£17.10	£21.10	£25.50
<b>4 weeks</b>	£60.00	£73.70	£89.10

Information about tickets and prices can found at Nexus travel shops or by calling telephone number 0191 2763706. More ticket information is also available at [info@networkonetickets.co.uk](mailto:info@networkonetickets.co.uk) . Ticket prices correct at time of publishing.

This website also provides information on the cost of other tickets and concessionary fares which are also available to students. Through the links to other sites further information can also be obtained on the services and concessionary fare schemes available from other transport providers in the region.

The site also provides a Journey Planner, which gives information on timetables for buses, trains, and the Metro.

## **Post 16 - 50% Reimbursement Scheme**

Students who live in North Tyneside aged 16 and under 19 on 31 August 2024 may be eligible for a 50% reimbursement of their travel costs if they attend a full time course of study and travelling 3 miles or more between their home and **nearest** further education college or school providing the course.

The scheme provides reimbursement of 50% of the standard commercial price of the Network One Student Ticket or Nexus Metro Student Card

Applications should be submitted at the start of the Autumn Term to confirm eligibility. Receipts should then be submitted at the end of each term in accordance with the deadlines set out in the scheme.

No Payment is made in respect of travel to alternative sites or placements even if they are part of the course.

For further information and application forms contact the Access Team on 0191 6438726 or alternatively on the Council's website at [www.northtyneside.gov.uk](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk)

This scheme is subject to review.

### **3. What times during the day can learners use their travel pass?**

Network One 16 – 19 Travel Tickets can be used at any time, including evenings and weekends.

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

For the 2023/2024 academic year the Network One 16 – 19 Ticket is available until the end of the academic year, in which the student reaches the age of 19,

Different criteria apply for other concessionary travel ticket schemes, which may be available from individual operators.

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

Students must be in full-time, further education within the Tyne and Wear area and be age 16 and under 19 on 5 September 2024.

Full-time education/course is defined as course a student attending 6<sup>th</sup> Form or college course for 16 hours a week or more. Further education is generally defined as non-advanced courses or courses up to GCE A level or NVQ level 3.

### **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?**

Students who have had an Education Health and Care Plan up to the age of 16 or where appropriate up to 25 who wish to attend a Further Education College as a direct continuation of their education may be eligible for free transport assistance if it is appropriate to their needs.

Further details regarding Learners with Learning difficulties and/or disabilities are available on the council website through the following link.

[https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Home%20to%20School%20College%20Transport%20Policy%20-%20Reviewed%20May%202021\\_0.pdf](https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Home%20to%20School%20College%20Transport%20Policy%20-%20Reviewed%20May%202021_0.pdf)

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

Yes training is available and students should contact their school or college for further information.

North Tyneside Council actively supports Independent Travel Training (ITT). Any student who is recommended for personal transport assistance must undergo assessment for entry onto a training programme.

All Travel Training will be with full support of the parents and the educational establishment, students will only be removed from transport when they have successfully completed the course.

### **Independent Travel Training for Young People in Education**

Young People are trained in a life skill in preparation for an independent future.

The purpose of the training is to:

- Inspire, educate, challenge and support young people who experience difficulty accessing public transport independently
- Extend personal experience through travel training to enhance confidence, self esteem and personal safety
- Develop travel skills in order to access opportunities for education, training leisure and work.

For further information and details contact Graham Rowe at [graham.rowe@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:graham.rowe@northtyneside.gov.uk)

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

Students can only apply for the Network One 16 – 19 Travel Ticket when they start their course.

Information about other support is available from individual Schools/Colleges.

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

The Network One Travel 16 – 19 Travel Ticket is available for students travelling throughout the Tyne and Wear area.

## **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?**

Students can apply to their college for assistance from the college's Access Support Funds.

Students with disabilities and/or learning difficulties attending specialist residential colleges with financial support through the EFA may apply to Access Team for assistance. Travel assistance may be provided at the start and end of a term and half term. For those students whose parents prefer to take them to college by car, reimbursement of the petrol costs may be made. If students are independent travellers then reimbursement of their train/bus fares may be made.

**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.**

**North Tyneside Council**

Access Team  
Quadrant East  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Left  
Silverlink North  
Cobalt Business Park  
North Tyneside  
NE27 OBY

**Telephone 0191 643 8726**

[www.northtyneside.gov.uk](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk)

**NEXUS**

Nexus House  
33 St James' Boulevard  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 4AX  
**Telephone Traveline 0191 2020747  
2002233**

[www.nexus.org.uk](http://www.nexus.org.uk)

**Colleges in Tyne and Wear**

**Tyne Metropolitan College**, Embleton Avenue, Wallsend. **Tyne & Wear**  
NE28 9NJ  
Telephone 0191 229 5000

[www.tynemet.ac.uk](http://www.tynemet.ac.uk)

**Newcastle College**, Student Services, Advice & Enquiry Centre,  
Rye Hill Campus, Scotswood Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5BR  
Telephone 0191 200 4000

[www.ncl-coll.ac.uk](http://www.ncl-coll.ac.uk)

**Gateshead College,**

Gateshead College has four campuses Baltic campus, Academy for Sport at Gateshead International Stadium, Skills Academy for Automotive, Manufacturing, Engineering and Logistics, and Skills Academy for Construction.

**Baltic Campus**

Quarryfield Road, Baltic Business Quarter, Gateshead, NE8 3BE Telephone  
Student Services 0191 490 2325

**Academy for Sport at Gateshead International Stadium**

Neilson Road, Gateshead, NE10 OEF

**Skills Academy for Automotive, Manufacturing, Engineering and Logistics**  
Kingsway South, Team Valley, Gateshead, NE11 OSU

**Skills Academy for Construction**  
Eighth Avenue, Kingsway South, Team Valley, Gateshead, NE11 OSX

[www.gateshead.ac.uk](http://www.gateshead.ac.uk)

**South Tyneside College**, St George's Avenue, South Shields, NE34 CET  
.Telephone 0191 4273500

[www.stc.ac.uk](http://www.stc.ac.uk)

**City of Sunderland College**, Bede Centre, Durham Road, Sunderland SR3  
4AH  
Telephone 0191 5116000

[www.sunderlandcollege.ac.uk](http://www.sunderlandcollege.ac.uk)

**Go North East:** [www.gonortheast.co.uk](http://www.gonortheast.co.uk)

**Arriva Buses:** [www.arrivabus.co.uk](http://www.arrivabus.co.uk)

**Stagecoach:** [www.stagecoachbus.com](http://www.stagecoachbus.com)

**Traveline:** [www.travelinenortheast.info](http://www.travelinenortheast.info)

**Traveline Journey Planner:** [Plan a Journey \(travelinenortheast.info\)](http://www.travelinenortheast.info)

## **12. Other Learners**

Learners aged 16-18 who are undertaking a Foundation Learning programme or Apprenticeship may have reasonable travel expenses met by the learning/training provider. In the first instance Learners should contact their learning/training provider for details of travel support.

The local bus operators also provide support to young people even if they are not in college; For further information contact the above operators direct.

## **13. Complaints/Appeals**

Should a learner wish to appeal against the decision of the Authority not to provide transport assistance please write to:

Home to School Transport  
Access Team  
Quadrant East, Floor 3L  
Silverlink North  
Cobalt Business Park  
North Tyneside  
NE27 OBY

You must state why you disagree with the decision, providing any additional information to support your appeal. The Authority will review its decision within ten days in the light of any new evidence provided and will inform the learner of the outcome of the appeal.

Should a learner wish to make a complaint about the content of the policy the appeal process outlined above should be followed, in your letter please indicate the omissions you consider have been made and how this affects you. The Authority will consider the complaint within seven days and inform the learner of the outcome.

#### **14. Consultation/Stakeholders**

Members of the Tyne and Wear Transport Partnership, which includes local colleges, transport providers, have contributed to the content of this Policy.