



Travel Guide for 16-19 year old Students

April 2022

Students with Special Educational Needs

Students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities applying for help with their home to school/college transport should contact West Berkshire Special Educational Needs Team. Their needs will then be considered under West Berkshire Council's Special Educational Needs Transport Policy. If the student is eligible for transport assistance they will need to pay a contribution towards the cost. Contact West Berkshire's SEN Team: Tel: **01635 519712 / 519191**.

Students with a disability

West Berkshire Council issue Off Peak National bus passes for free travel to help people who are affected by disability, access public transport. For more information, contact West Berkshire's Concessionary Fares Team. Tel: **01635 519 800** E-mail:

farepayers@westberks.gov.uk

Visit <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/concessionaryfares>



Aged 16-19?

Interested in further study?

Worried about how to get to your training provider?

Worried about how much it might cost to travel?

This guide is for YOU!

- How to get to your school, college or training provider
- How to get the best deal for travel

Thinking about your journey

Before looking at what support may be available, we advise students to check for public transport travel options using the Traveline journey planner at www.traveline.info or telephone Traveline on **0871 20022 33** (calls cost 12 pence per minute plus network extras).

For further details of transport in West Berkshire, including Public Transport, you can visit <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/publictransport> or e-mail the Transport Services Team farepayers@westberks.gov.uk or telephone **01635 503494**.

Once you have thought about your journey, you should use the contact details in this guide to help you.

Next Steps

- Contact your chosen college, school or training provider
- Ask them for details of travel services they offer
- Find out whether they can offer financial support - Bursary Funding
- Contact travel companies direct for tickets for all other public transport services.



West Berkshire
C O U N C I L

Colleges and Training Providers

Newbury College

Bus services stopping at Newbury College are operated by **Newbury and District**. The service 103 and 2 stop at the College. Students from households with lower incomes may apply to the Bursary Fund for support with the cost of train and bus travel. For more information and an application form, go to **Newbury College Bursary Information** or contact Information Services on 01635 845000

West Berkshire Training Consortium (WBTC)

WBTC is located a short walking distance from Newbury Train Station and Newbury Bus Station. For directions, go to **www.wbtc-uk.com** or call **01635 35975**.

Basingstoke Technical College (BCOT)

BCOT is a 10 minute walk away from Basingstoke railway station and accessible by bus including Stagecoach's 'The Link' bus route from Newbury. For more information go to **www.bcot.ac.uk** or call **01256 354141**.

Berkshire College of Agriculture

The College operates their own bus services to the college and students can purchase a bus pass through the college. For more information go to **www.bca.ac.uk** or call **01628 824444**.

Henley College

Horseman Coaches run services to Henley College that pick up students from Tilehurst, Compton, Streatley and other areas just outside West Berkshire. For more information go to **www.henleycol.ac.uk** or call **(01491) 579988**.

Queen Mary's College

The College is in walking distance from Basingstoke train/bus stations. South West trains services stop in Basingstoke. A Stagecoach bus runs past the College. College buses run from Andover, Burghfield and Newbury areas. For more information go to **www.qmc.ac.uk** or call **01256 417500**.



How to get
to your school,
college
or training
provider
How to get
the best deal
on the cost

Reading College

Reading College offer travel schemes and funding towards travel. For more information go to www.reading-college.ac.uk or call **0800 6126008**.

Sparsholt College

The College offers subsidised travel passes and private coaches. The no. 7 Stagecoach bus also runs throughout the day from Winchester/Winchester train station to Sparsholt College. For more information go to www.sparsholt.ac.uk or call **01962 776441**.

University Technical College Reading

The college site in Crescent Road, Reading is accessible by public transport. For more information go to www.utcreading.co.uk or call **01189 381020**.

University of West London, Reading and Slough

For travel information for the Reading or Slough sites, call the University of West London on **0800 036 8888** or visit their website www.uwl.ac.uk

West Berkshire's Fare Payer Scheme

The West Berkshire Fare Payers Scheme offers seats to students on transport services that are operated under contract to the Council, including contracted school buses and subsidised train services. Applications should be made online - application forms are available on the West Berkshire Council website at www.westberks.gov.uk/schooltransport from 25 April 2022.

Students attending their nearest or catchment sixth form will be guaranteed a space on existing bus routes, provided they apply before the guaranteed place deadline of 21 July 2022. In all other cases, students may apply but there is no guarantee that a seat will be available.

School Bus

For information about routes please email the Transport Services Team:

farepayers@westberks.gov.uk or call **01635 503494**.

Please refer to the Fare Payer Scheme Policy on www.westberks.gov.uk/schooltransport

Public Transport - planning your journey by bus or train

First of all, use the Traveline journey planner www.traveline.info to check for public transport travel options. Then discuss travel options with your chosen college, school, or training provider. We recommend that you also contact the transport operator or operators to confirm ticket and travel arrangements.

Public Buses

Kennections, Newbury & District, Reading Buses and West Berkshire Council Transport Services Team 'Connect Services'

Connect tickets are available on all services operated by Kennections, Newbury & District, West Berkshire Council Transport Services Team and on the Reading Buses Jetblack service between Newbury and Colthrop Turn. A range of 'Connect' tickets enable passengers to make cost effective bus travel. Connect Child fares are available for full-time students under 19 providing valid ID is shown. For more details go to <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/connect>

Reading Buses

Reading Buses offer 'Boost' fares which offer under 19's cheaper travel on their network. They also have a range of 'Simply' tickets that provide savings for regular travellers. For more details, go to www.reading-buses.co.uk.

PlusBus

PlusBus is a discounted price ticket for unlimited local bus travel around town that individuals can buy with their train ticket. Bus travel can be included at the start, the finish or both ends of the train journey. It is widely available in many areas including Newbury, Reading, Basingstoke, Swindon, Wokingham, Maidenhead and Slough – further details can be found at www.plusbus.info.

Trains

Young Person's Railcard

Young People aged 16-25 can purchase a Young Person's Railcard from their local train station. This card enables young people to save 1/3rd on most train fares. For more details go to www.youngpersons-railcard.co.uk.

Season Tickets

Train Season Tickets are available for seven days or any period between one month and a year. Season Tickets and Travel cards usually save individuals money compared to buying daily tickets, and can be used on weekdays and at weekends. Some Season Tickets carry time of day travel restrictions. For more information, contact Great Western Railways www.gwr.com or National Rail Enquiries www.nationalrail.co.uk.

Train Passes

Students who require a train pass (with a PlusBus pass, if required) can ask West Berkshire Council to purchase reduced-rate scholars tickets on their behalf, where it is cost-effective to do so. Passes will not be sent out to students until payment has been received by West Berkshire Council.

For further information, telephone **01635 503494**
To apply for school bus or special rate train passes, please fill in the Farepaying application form at www.westberks.gov.uk/schooltransport