If Devon offer me assistance what form will this take?

This will vary on a case by case basis and will be dependent on your family's circumstances. If support is agreed by Devon County Council the Transport Co-ordination Service will decide what the minimum level of support is required. This may be:

- Independent Travel Training.
- A Vacant Seat on a contract vehicle.
- A petrol allowance to assist your parents/ carers to take you to school or college in the family vehicle.
- A financial contribution to assist your parents/ carer with the cost of making private transport arrangements to enable you to get to school or college.

Will any help offered be free of charge?

No. Any help offered by Devon County Council will be subject to the payment of the parental contribution.

Will any help offered be for the duration of my post 16 studies?

No. Any help offered by Devon County Council will be for that academic year only, or the duration agreed by the local authority if for a shorter time. You will need to re-apply each academic year.

If you need advice as to which school or college is the nearest to your home, or advice on help with your travel to education, contact **0345 155 1019** or visit **devon.cc/schooltransport**

I have no way of getting to my school or college

Where you cannot make your own arrangements to get to a school or college and there is no public transport or Vacant Seat available then you can talk to the Transport Co-ordination Service about what other support may be available. In some cases this will mean that an Assessment of Need will be carried out.

During the Assessment of Need process, the Transport Co-ordination Service will ask a series of questions to find out why you, your parents or carers are not able to make the necessary travel arrangements. They will identify the minimal help required to remove transport as a barrier to you continuing in education.

You, your parents or carers will need to provide additional evidence to support the Assessment of Need. The normal parental contribution for the academic year will be applied to any support provided by Devon County Council.

For further information about whether you are eligible to be considered for an assessment call 0345 155 1019 or visit:

devon.cc/post-16transport

I am over 19 but continuing in education will I be able to ask for help?

If you are aged 19 or over on the 1st September and your Education, Health and Care Plan supports you continuing on in education, you will need to re-apply for transport through a Post 19 Assessment of Needs. If you are not entitled to Post 19 education funded transport, you can apply for support through Adult Care by contacting **MyDevon** on **0345 155 1007**.

Useful Information

Traveline can help with bus or train information**.** Their website is **www.travelinesw.com** or you can download their travel app.Alternatively, you can also **call 0871 200 22 33.**

National Rail Enquiries 03457 48 49 50 or **www.nationalrail.co.uk** can help with rail information.

A new National rail card for 16-17 year olds has been introduced saving up to 50% on fares. Please visit **www.16-17saver.co.uk**

Public Bus Service Providers

AB Coaches (KEVICs)	01803 864161
Axe Valley Mini Travel	01297 625959
Buses of Somerset	01823 211180
Country Bus	01626 833664
Dartline	01392 872900
First Dorset	01305 783645
Hatch Green Coaches	01823 480338
Plymouth City Bus	01752 662271
Stagecoach Southwest	01392 427711
Tally Ho Coaches	01548 853081
Taw & Torridge	01271 859533
Oakleys Coaches	01752 729866
Wood Brothers	01364 642666

Transport for post-16 students

what you need to know

Information correct
April 2025

Devon County Council

Am I eligible for assistance from DCC?

Devon County Council does not provide a universal post-16 assisted travel scheme. It expects that students, parents or carers will consider how students are going to get to and from their Post 16 school/college prior to applying and accepting a place.

My parents/carers are not able to get me to and from my school/college

You and your parents or carers need to explore all avenues available to get you to and from the school or college. This could be walking to college, cycling, car share, public transport, Vacant Seat scheme, private taxi etc.

Public Transport

Where there is public transport serving a school/college, it is expected that you, your parent or your carer should make travel arrangements directly with the bus or rail company.

Contact Traveline on **0871 200 22 33** or visit **www.travelinesw.com** for information on the public services in your area.

There is no suitable public transport to my school or college

The expectation is that you, your parents or carers will make the necessary arrangements for you to get to and from school or college. If there is a contract vehicle already running to the school/college you may apply for a Vacant Seat. You need to make an application at an early stage, before 1 July, via the webpage below, using the online application link:

devon.cc/vacant-seats

What is a Vacant Seat?

A Vacant Seat is where there is no public transport available but there is a contract vehicle operating to your school or college with a spare seat. If you are offered a Vacant Seat following your application it will be guaranteed for that academic year. **A contribution to the cost of transport is required.**

My family are on a low income and cannot afford the cost of transport

If your family are on a low income the school/college should be approached for help. Most establishments receive 16-19 bursary funds to provide targeted help to individuals in need. They may choose to make financial awards to young people in ways that best fit their needs and circumstances.

Bursary awards should be targeted towards young people facing financial barriers to education, such as the costs of transport, meals, books and equipment. You will need to contact the establishment direct to discuss possible bursary funding.

There is public transport/contract vehicle but I am not able to travel on it because of my needs

If you are not able to travel by public transport or on a contract vehicle because of your additional needs Devon County Council may be able to provide support for Independent Travel Training.

Please contact a member of the Transport Co-ordination Service to discuss this further on **0345 155 1019**.