

## Easy read version

### Consultation on the proposed new Home to School Travel Policy 2020

Who is this information from?	Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
What is this document about?	<p>It tells you about the home to school travel service.</p> <p>It also lets you know what our thoughts are for the future of the home to school travel service we offer.</p>
What are we doing now?	<p>The home to school travel service is used by lots of children and young people.</p> <p>The Government tells us what we have to provide but we also provide more than this.</p>
Why are we suggesting something different?	We need to find ways to make the home to school service a fair service that also makes best use of the Council's money.
What are our ideas?	<p><b>Pupils who live at more than one address</b> Some children and young people live at two addresses. This is because they spend some time each week with one parent/carer and some time with their other parent/carer.</p> <p>If we provide home to school travel to and from both addresses, this costs a lot of money.</p> <p>We think that only the address, which is near to the school, should be allowed to have us help with travel and if another address is too far away from the school then we should not provide travel for that address.</p> <p><b>Pupils who are over 16 years of age and have an Additional Learning Need/Special Educational Need</b> Some children who go to a special school because this is the best place to meet their needs during their education up until the age of 16 years but when they reach the age of 16 they do not continue in a special school or other specialist place for their education instead they attend a non-specialist place of learning. For these pupils we think that we should no longer offer travel assistance, as they should make their own arrangements to go to their place of learning.</p> <p><b>Spare seats on school buses</b> We allow some children who do not qualify for home to school travel to make use of any spare seats that are on the bus, we charge for this but we think we are not charging enough money so we think we need to increase the cost of a spare seat on the bus.</p>

	<p><b>Families with Mobility Scheme vehicles</b> Sometimes children who have a disability can have a vehicle that their family uses for them to get about.</p> <p>We would like the family to continue to use the vehicle to take the child to and from school and where appropriate we would pay something towards this for instance to help towards the cost of the petrol through something we call a mileage allowance.</p> <p><b>Two-stage appeal process</b> We would like to change the way we hold appeals and have the process split into two stages, the first will be looked at by a group of people we call the Transport Group and the second stage will be looked at by another group of people, a panel who will have no knowledge of the matter and they will make a decision based on evidence that they hear and read.</p> <p><b>Types of travel assistance offered</b> We think that only one person in a vehicle is very expensive and is not always necessary. We want to tell people that we want to have all our children and young people share a vehicle on a journey to and from school rather than go alone.</p> <p>We may also change the type of transport you are receiving now to get to and from school, for example, you may no longer travel on a taxi and your parents may take you in the family car or you may receive travel training, which allows you to make your own way to and from school or college.</p> <p><b>Online applications</b> If you or your family want to apply for help with home to school travel we want you to fill in a form online and send it to us this way as we think this is a better way to do things.</p>
<p>What would we like you to do?</p>	<p>We would like you to tell us what you think of our ideas.</p> <p>We would like you to fill in the online survey to tell us what you think.</p> <p>You can have someone to help you fill in the online survey</p> <p>If you do not want to fill the survey in online please contact us and we can send you the form.</p>
<p>When do you need to let us know</p>	<p>You need to let us know before the end of the day on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019.</p>