

Free independent travel training for young people with SEND

Supporting our young people to lead happy and independent lives



Warwickshire County Council is providing free independent travel training for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), with an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) and who are eligible for home to school transport assistance.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sendtransport

Independent travel training offers one to one, tailored, practical support to help young people with SEND learn to travel independently to their school, college, work placement or training provider by using public transport within Warwickshire.

How does a travel training course work?

Each programme of training is bespoke to the individual and usually takes place once a week for 9 to 12 weeks, or until the young person is confident and able to travel independently. Our specialist Travel Trainers will assess as they go and adapt the programme where necessary.

Key skills include:

- One to one personalised travel trainer support.
- Personal and road safety awareness and safety skills.
- Journey planning and preparation (eg what to take, what the weather might be like).
- Time and money management.
- Leaving the home safely (eg locking up).
- Coping in emergencies, or unexpected circumstances (eg missed stops, cancelled trains).
- Using technology, such as smart travel cards and mobile phones.

How does travel training benefit a young person?

Being able to travel independently increases a young person's independence and life chances, improves their self-esteem and confidence, as well as helps them prepare for adulthood.

These skills can then be transferred into their everyday lives enabling them to access more opportunities such as going out with friends, transitioning to college, accessing work placements etc.

Travel training can benefit parents and carers too, giving them peace of mind that their child is able to travel safely on their own.



How I do access travel training?

Schools, colleges, young people, parents and professionals can make a referral for a student who meets the eligibility criteria using the referral form available on Warwickshire County Council's website:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sendtransport



Before a referral can be made, consent needs to be given by the individual, or the parent/carer if the individual is under 16 years old.

If you know a young person (aged 11 to 25) with SEND and an EHCP who is enthusiastic and who might benefit from independent travel training, please get in touch at: tt@warwickshire.gov.uk

