

Telephone: (0114) 273 6450

E Mail: l.hattersley@sheffield.gov.uk

Your reference:

Our reference: JD/LNH

Date: 20th March 2014



**Councillor Jackie Drayton
Cabinet Member for
Children, Young People & Families
and Councillor for Burngreave Ward**

Town Hall
SHEFFIELD
S1 2HH

Dear Parent/Carer

You will have received a letter from the South Yorkshire Passenger and Transport Executive (SYPTe) recently setting out the changes it is making to the usage of disability bus passes as a direct result of successive budget cuts made by Central Government.

These changes come into force from April 1st this year and will mean that the disability passes issued via SYPTe can no longer be used for free travel on public transport before 9.30am.

We recognise the importance for young people to travel independently on public transport to school and college, so we are very concerned about these changes and anxious to address the impacts they might have on young people with disabilities.

In Sheffield, the Council have made a decision to find funding to establish an additional scheme that young people going to school or college can continue to use their current disability entitlement pass from the first bus in the morning.

Officers from the Council have worked with SYPTe to develop a scheme and arrangements have been made for an extension to the disability pass for the morning journey to school or college. Entitlement for the free homeward journey will not be affected by the changes. The existing disability pass will still be valid for this.

The additional pass will sit alongside the existing disability pass in the blue 'Travel South Yorkshire' wallet (which will also be provided) to make it easy for the young traveller to handle and for the bus drivers and tram conductors to inspect.

If these changes affect your child's travel arrangements you need to apply for this additional pass which will allow free travel to school or college before 9.30am until the end of the school/college year. Please see the attached sheet for details on how to apply.

Meanwhile we will be reviewing the situation and the best way forward for the school/college year beginning in September 2014.

All good wishes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jackie Drayton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J' and 'D'.

Councillor Jackie Drayton
Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families
Lifelong Learning & Skills
Councillor for Burngreave

The Interim Disability Travel Pass for Home to School/College Travel

How to Get your Interim Pass

You should apply if

The child or young person with the disability pass:

- Is travelling to school or college before 9.30 in the morning
- Is using the current disability pass for the journey on the bus or the tram

How to get a pass

- You can telephone the Council on 0114 2734567 – select option 4
- On line - you can send us the information via the following link on the Council's website: www.sheffield.gov.uk/contactus - then select "ask us a question"
add your e-mail address and click continue
in 'your enquiry' select Health and Social Care from the menu list
in 'Subject Type' select Mobility Travel Permit then click 'more information' -
please provide the details above in the box,
when completed Click 'send your enquiry'
- If the Council has your telephone number we will try to contact you to help you obtain your pass.

You will need to need to provide the following information:

- the name, address and date of birth of the pass holder
- the place of learning or training
- the number on the current disability pass

Once all necessary checks have been made your pass and free wallet will then be sent to you

You do not need to apply if

The child or young person with the disability pass:

- Is already receiving transport assistance in a minibus or taxi to get school or college because of their disability or special educational needs
- Is not travelling to school or college on the bus or the tram
- Is not in full time education or training
- Has a current Zero Fare or Travel Master pass allowing free travel to school or college