Your ref:

My ref:

BH/Letters Schools/LB3211

To: Headteachers of all Warwickshire Secondary Schools and College Principals



Children, Young People and Families

Bob Hooper Education Partnerships and School Development Service Saltisford Office Park Ansell Way Warwick CV34 4UL

Tel: 01926 742008 Fax: 01926 742020

e-mail: bobhooper@warwickshire.gov.uk

www.warwickshire.gov.uk

17th May 2010

Title:

Post 16 Transport

Action: Timescale: Note arrangements and inform students

September 2010

For the attention of:

The Headteacher, Principal, Head of 6th Form

Dear Colleague

The Local Authority is well aware of the concern amongst school and college leaders regarding the reduction in subsidy for post 16 transport. This is perfectly understandable given this was a decision taken by the Authority, only very reluctantly as a consequence of budget pressures. This letter sets out how the Authority plans to manage14-19 off-site transport arrangements in the future.

September 2010 - Post 16 students

Continuing Post 16 students in their 2nd year of study

Payment for transport will increase from £300 to £400 per student per year to allow Warwickshire County Council to continue to subsidise transport. In most cases, students will continue to travel using the same vehicle. Some students will continue to receive a travel allowance.

Payment will be made to Warwickshire County Council either in one payment of £400 or termly payments of:

Autumn - £150 Spring - £150 Summer - £100

The annual charge will continue to be waived for Year 2 students from low income families.

Working for Warwickshire

Post 16 Students in their 1st year of study

The charge for transport will be £540 per year which is equivalent to £3 per day. This is the same figure that College's will charge Year 1 students.

Payment will be made to Warwickshire County Council either in one payment of £540 or termly payments of:

Autumn - £220 Spring - £220 Summer - £100

No daily fare will be available.

No additional help will be available to Year 1 students from low-income families. However, some young people may be eligible for an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

Please note that for students in Year 1 in 2010/11 there can be no guarantee that Warwickshire County Council will subsidise transport costs in future years and that while Warwickshire will do all it can to maintain bus routes in the future we cannot be certain a bus will be available in 2011/12.

September 2010 - Students aged 14-16 attending offsite learning opportunities

Transport will continue to be provided for those eligible learners on year 2 (in Year 11) of an offsite learning course. The cost of this transport to schools will increase to £100 per learner. To assist schools and learners in the short term we will continue to operate the existing arrangements for Year 10 students. If there is capacity within the current post 16 transport network, eligible learners will be able to apply for a bus pass, at a cost of £100 per learner.

For Diploma learners this cost will be met from the Diploma Formula Grant and will be paid directly on the school's behalf. For other offsite learners (NOVA/STAR/SWIFT) this cost will need to be met by the school or other collaborative arrangements.

Further details on 2010/11 arrangements for pre 16 learners attending off-site provision is attached with this letter.

September 2011 - Post 16 transport

The Council anticipates that transport costs will be set by operators at commercial rates. The rate is likely to be in the region of £630 per annum. There will no longer be assistance with transport to low-income families, although it is acknowledged that all students with a household income below £30,000 are entitled to an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) to support continued education or training.

Warwickshire County Council will continue to operate, 'Vacant Seats' policy. These seats will be made available to all students attending sixth forms or colleges. Costs would need to be in line with the commercial rate outlined above (£630).

September 2011 - 14-16 attending offsite learning opportunities

In the forthcoming weeks we shall further develop our policy for 2011/12 and beyond. For September 2011 schools and colleges will be expected to organise and fund their own pre 16 offsite transport arrangements, for example, school minibuses, or later start times to allow all pupils to attend school before travelling together to offsite learning providers. The Access and Transport Coordinator and 14-19 Area Development Officers will take on additional responsibility to support 14-19 Area Partnership working on transport issues. We aim to be able to consult on future transport policy development in the early autumn 2010.

We will provide further information giving details of the transport arrangements for Post 16 LLDD students in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Bob Hospar

Bob Hooper
Acting Head of Service
Education Partnerships and School Development

Enc

