

Important Information: Home to School Transport

We want parents to have the information they need to make informed decisions regarding their school preferences dependent on their own priorities and circumstances in relation to school transport.

What parents need to know

Applying for school places

- Parents must apply to their nearest schools if they wish to be considered for free transport, but you can apply to schools in any preference order.
- The Council provides transport when children are attending their nearest secondary school with space available, where this is 3 miles or more from their home address.
- If you apply to all of your nearest schools, we can see whether your child would have been able to get a space there, based on their ranked position against admission criteria.
- If a space would not have been available at the nearest school, transport will be provided to the next nearest school, if you applied to it and were allocated a space.

Nearest School

- The nearest school is identified using industry standard measuring software.
- It measures in accordance with the method set out in the Home to School Transport Policy. This is either the shortest available walking route (for distances up to 3 miles) or the shortest available driving route (for distances 3 miles or more).
- Other measuring tools and methods will not be considered in the assessment of transport eligibility.
- You can check which school is your nearest by using our contact form (detailed below). We will ensure these are answered in time for you to apply for your school place.

Some additional information

- The Council's Home to School Transport Policy is available on its website here: [Home to School Transport](#) We strongly encourage parents to read this if school transport is a priority.
- Leicestershire County Council provides transport to the nearest or nearest Leicestershire school. There are small number of schools that remain 'frozen' and for which the catchment area is assessed. These schools are John Ferneley College, Long Field Spencer Academy and Priory Belvoir Academy.
- Except for the schools noted above, catchment and feeder schools are not considered in the assessment of transport eligibility.
- If you have a neighbour or an older child who has received school transport, please do not assume that your younger child will. Transport may have been available in previous years under policy transition arrangements, or other policy criteria. Transport is an individual assessment made at the time of applying for school places.
- Suitable school does not mean most suitable school in the assessment of transport eligibility. Unless a child has educational needs that are formally documented by the local authority, their nearest school will almost always be suitable for them.

How to contact us

- We encourage parents to use the information in this letter and on the Council's website to answer their questions.
- If you do need to contact us, please use our online contact form below. At busy times, particularly during the summer, it may take up to 5 weeks for us to respond to your enquiry.
- In relation to nearest school enquiries, please submit these by 9th October to ensure we can advise you before the school admissions closing date of 31st October.
- Please look out for school transport representatives at your secondary school open events.

[Transport Contact Form](#)