

## Briefing document – travel allowance system

### Purpose of document

This is a briefing document that supports the current consultation on home to school transport for children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or a Statement of Special Education Needs (SEN).

It is supported by the current draft policy documents that we are currently consulting on. Both of these documents outline the principles of the proposed travel allowance system.

The aim of this document is to help consultation respondents understand how the introduction of a travel allowance system would affect families in practice.

It offers a comparison between the current system of “parental mileage” and the proposed “travel allowance system”; and it cites two case studies.

### Comparison – parental mileage to travel allowance

This below table compares the current system of parental mileage with the proposed travel allowance system.

	<b>Current parental mileage system</b>	<b>Proposed travel allowance system</b>
<b>How much is paid per mile?</b>	22.5 pence per mile, rising to 40p per mile for journeys over 10 miles so long as the child is in the car	45 pence per mile
<b>How many journeys per day are paid for?</b>	4	2
<b>How should the journey be made?</b>	Payment is made for home to school journeys in the parent or carer's car	The allowance can be used flexibly, but responsibility for home to school transport would be with the parent or carer
<b>How is payment made?</b>	Termly in arrears, within 30 days of receipt of travel claim	Equal monthly instalments - paid October to July



<b>How do I claim?</b>	A claim form is filled in by the parent for the exact attendance days at the end of each term. This is then signed by the school as correct, and signed by the parent. The form is sent to the council, who have 30 days to make payment.	The parent applies for a travel allowance annually and the amount to be paid for the whole year is agreed. Attendance is checked centrally, and monthly payments are only adjusted if attendance falls below 80%.
<b>Is a student contribution deducted for students aged 16-18?</b>	Yes	Yes

### Case study 1 - John

John's home to school mileage is 8 miles per day. John goes to school in his parent's car 5 days a week. His attendance is good, although he has had some time off school due to illness, so his attendance is 95%.

Under the current system, £7.20 is paid to John's parents per day and the amount they receive per year, paid in 3 instalments is £1,299.60.

Under the proposed travel allowance system, £7.20 is paid to John's parents per day and the amount they receive per year, paid in 10 instalments, is £1,368.

### Case study 2 - Grace

Grace's home to school mileage is 15 miles per day. Grace goes to school in her parent's car 5 days a week. Her attendance has been poor this year as she has been unwell, so her attendance is 80%.

Under the current system, £15.25 is paid to Grace's parents per day and the amount they receive per year, paid in 3 instalments, is £2,318.

Under the proposed travel allowance system, £13.50 is paid to Grace's parents per day and the amount they receive per year, paid in 10 instalments, is £2,565.

