

# Independent Travel Training

A leaflet for parents and carers



[www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/htst](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/htst)

*Supporting young people who have learning difficulties or a disability to travel independently in Milton Keynes*

## What is Independent Travel Training?

Independent Travel Training can offer a young person training and support if they want to learn how to travel independently between home and school or college.

## Who is the training for?

The training is for young people living in Milton Keynes who have a disability and/or learning difficulty and attend school or college.

## Why take part in Independent Travel Training?

It will help a young person to learn the skills needed to make the journey between home and school or college independently, either on foot or by public transport, usually a bus.

## What is to gain from the training?

The aim of the training is to allow a young person to travel independently when they are ready and their skills have improved. So they will be encouraged to travel on public transport as soon as they are ready to do so.

Training can help a young person gain:

- confidence using buses
- road safety skills
- increased confidence while out and about



- skills to travel to school or college, such as the ability to plan and learn a route
- travel skills that will help them to access social, leisure and job opportunities
- the ability to handle money and tips on who to ask for help.

## Where will the training take place?

The initial meetings could happen at home or at school, wherever is more comfortable for the young person. The majority of the practical training is delivered in real life settings travelling to and from school.

Sessions could take place on days off school or in the afternoons if it's more suitable.

## How long does the training take?

All training is personalised to meet the young person's needs. During the training, they may be supported by a travel buddy, who will stay with them while they practise their journeys from home to school or college. We will keep parents and carers informed of progress at all times and can arrange to meet with them at home to discuss further if needed.

## Will training have an effect on current transport arrangements?

While you complete the training, your transport arrangements will stay the same to begin with.



## What happens when the training is completed?

Once a young person feels confident that they are able to make the journey between home and school or college independently, they will be expected to make future journeys on their own.

They may also be eligible for a bus pass that will enable them to travel on buses without having to pay a fare during the training and after. For home to school travel eligibility information, please refer to details on our website at:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/htst>

Marion Stephenson-Hoare's son Oliver took part in the training. She said:

"It's was great that the travel training took place at my son's pace. I never felt it was being rushed through as a form ticking exercise. Not only has it given my son some independence, but it's also given me mine back."

Oliver said:

"It's given me my independence. It's great being able to get the bus home when my timetable changes, rather than wait for a lift."



For more information contact:

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