

DERBY'S SEND

LOCAL OFFER

Local Offer User Group Notes

Meeting Thursday 16 June 12noon-1.30pm

Attendees:

Amanda Allsop, Catherine Omara, Sally Morton,
Charlotte Dolman (CD), Dan Marson (DM).

Summary of discussion

Actions from previous meeting on travel and transport

- Updated on previous actions and responses to questions about travel and transport.
- DM described a new “annual review toolkit”, to include aspects of travel, was in development and that he’d share with the group.
- Could parent carers be given prior notice of introductions to allocated drivers so that parents could ensure they were at home and that it was convenient?
ACTION: DM/CD to investigate
- Concerns were raised that children are dropped off at school with the vehicle immediately leaving without seeing safe passage of the child into school.
ACTION: DM/CD to investigate
- Gold cards are not managed by the HTST. This is managed by the public transport team, within [Traffic and Transportation Directorate](#). **ACTION:** DM/CD to investigate
- The group discussed how it would be useful to have other life skills present in the review as well as travel information.
- Questions around fuel reimbursements were answered as follows by the travel team:

Who is eligible for a fuel reimbursement?

Where students are eligible for home to school travel assistance and you have access to your own vehicle, parents/carers can request the Council to consider reimbursing fuel costs. This is done by completing an application for Home to School Travel, which is then assessed by officers in the Home to School Travel Service team, in line with our policy.



The Home to School Travel Assistance policy and application forms can be found on our website: <https://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/school-transport/>

How does the Council calculate fuel reimbursements?

The fuel reimbursement is based on a maximum of 2 return journeys for each school day that the student attends, multiplied by the distance that we measure to be the shortest driving route.

The maximum rate we pay per mile is outlined in the following table:

Distance in miles	Rate we pay per mile
Up to 50 per return journey	45p
51-100	35p
101-200	25p
201 upwards	15p

We pay fuel reimbursements after the end of each term and only after your child's school/college has confirmed their attendance. The Derby city school term dates for 2021-22 are as follows:

- Autumn Term (Thursday 02 September 2021 – Thursday 23 December 2021)
- Spring Term (Monday 10 January 2022 – Friday 08 April 2022)
- Summer Term (Monday 25 April 2022 – Friday 22 July 2022)

Review of health and wellbeing webpages

- Schools should report back to parents about any health concerns raised when in school? Schools should refer to the school nurse for medical issues. **ACTION:** DM to investigate highlighting the school nurse service.
- Discussion about annual health checks and why the start age is 14. **ACTION:** CD to ask the Designated Clinical Officer SEND
- CD suggested that 'Roles of health professionals' page could be about the department rather than the person. After discussing that patients go to see a person not the department, it was decided to encompass both to improve these pages. **ACTION:** CD to review this content.
- Transition through health services from 16 and from 18 was discussed. There's a need for more practical information, hints and tips, a parents perspective, a personalized pathway as parent carers have to have the overview and keep track of everything.
- How do you get on the GP's register? **ACTION:** CD to ask the Designated Clinical Officer SEND
- Community Short Breaks should manage expectation. Much discussion around the various waiting lists and timescales before the break is put in place. **ACTION:** DM to raise with the short breaks team
- School nurse discussed again with a view that SEND is not just a medical need.



- DM raised Parent Carer Needs Assessments sitting under health and wellbeing leading to discussion about parent carer support.

Review of parent carer support webpages

- Discussed what other support is out there for parent carers other than health visitors and schools:
 - General leaflets shared when given a diagnosis
 - Almost too much information to digest
 - Couple of generic courses
 - Some school coffee mornings
 - BAME community have cultural barriers around getting support
- It was agreed peer to peer is the best support.
- DM suggested vlogs from parent carers personal experience would be helpful, reflecting the idea of personalizing these webpages with 'the reality'. **ACTION:** The group to think about this video idea and suggest anyone who would like to participate.
- The Hospital SEND Group historically created some video content.
- Young people's experience should be heard too. **ACTION:** DM to reignite the idea of making videos with Derby College.
- Other support networks highlighted, QClub at the Quad, Universal Carers and Parent Carers Together.
- Ivy House runs coffee mornings not just for pupil's parents. **ACTION:** DM to ask about coffee mornings in general at special schools via the SENCO network.
- Financial support be highlighted on this page, pulling together various grants and benefits in one place: PIP, DLA plus childcare element, DFG, Personal budgets, Personal Health budgets. **ACTION:** CD to collate and implement

General discussion

- What could go in the newsletter?
 - [CEA card](#)
 - [Discounts for Carers](#)
 - [Access card/ Credibility card](#)
 - [Derby Holiday Activity and Food Programme](#)

Next meeting:

- CD to look at dates in the autumn for the next meeting.
- Next meeting to focus on [EHC assessments and plans](#).
 - Group members to review these sections in advance of meeting.

