

Sent via e-mail:

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Dear Headteacher

Home to School Travel Policy – Post Implementation Review

This letter is being sent for the attention of headteachers and school leaders in all schools and academies in North Yorkshire.

As you will be aware, the Council introduced a revised Home to School Travel Policy with effect from 1 September 2024. The policy aligned the Council's arrangements for home to school travel with the legal requirements and statutory guidance issued by the DfE. This included in respect of the main eligibility criteria for assistance with free home to school travel which provides that, for children who satisfy other eligibility criteria, transport is provided to the nearest suitable school with available places.

The Council has recently completed a post implementation review of the implementation of the policy. The review found that the policy is operating in line with national guidance and remains on track to achieve its intended outcomes, including savings. It also identified several areas where improvements could be made, including:

- Removing a small number of routes where there are practical challenges.
- Improving mapping and route data.
- Strengthening the appeals process.
- Providing greater clarity around how routes and distances are assessed.
- Improving information and guidance.

A consultation exercise is now being undertaken about the findings of the review, and about proposals for revisions to the Home to School Travel Policy. This consultation will end on 4 November, and the findings arising from it will be considered by the Council at its meeting on 18 September.

Information about the findings from the post implementation review, and the consultation exercise can be found on the Council's website using the following link:

[Have your say on proposed changes to our Home to School Travel Policy | North Yorkshire Council](#)

I would be grateful if you could provide assistance with the consultation by bringing the issue to the attention of parents using your school's usual communication routes.

Please note that no changes have been agreed at this stage. Families who are currently making applications for a school place to start in September 2027 should consider the current Home to School Travel Policy, the details of which can be found using the following link to the Council's website: -

[School transport for reception to year 11 children | North Yorkshire Council.](#)

Further information will be provided for parents and to schools after the Council's meeting in November.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Your Sincerely

El Mayhew

Corporate Director, Children & Young People's Service