Paul Waugh MP
Minister for Early Education

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe

HELEN HAYES MP
CHAIR OF THE EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE
HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

30 OCTOBER 2026

Dear Helen,

SUPPLMENTARY GUIDANCE ABOUT SCHOOL COLLEGE TRAVEL

I am writing to let you know that today, 30 October 2026, we have published some supplementary guidance to support local authorities to work collaboratively when making decisions about school and college travel assistance in order to ensure that travel arrangements meet children and young people's needs while making effective use of resources. The guidance is available here: School and college travel assistance: guidance for local authorities - GOV.UK.

The guidance includes practical examples provided by local authorities to illustrate effective partnership working and local practice. It covers how teams within an authority – particularly SEND caseworkers and the school and college travel team – can work together and how authorities can develop effective relationships with schools and families.

The topics covered include:

- considering children and young people's travel needs when making decisions about education placements, including during the EHC plan process
- supporting children and young people to develop independence through independent travel training
- working with parents to understand children and young people's individual needs and identify suitable travel arrangements
- working with schools, colleges and alternative provision settings to support effective travel arrangements
- arranging travel for children and young people attending alternative provision or receiving education otherwise than at school
- developing clear, accessible travel assistance policies and positive relationships with families

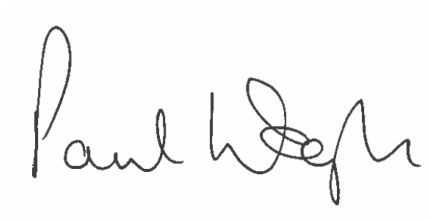
- using good administrative practice to help avoid and resolve appeals and complaints.

We will be adding the following to the guidance at a later date:

- advice on working with health professionals to ensure children's medical needs are met
- advice for schools on how they can support the delivery of school and college travel assistance to ensure the needs of their pupils and students are met.

We have worked with local authorities to develop the guidance and expect them to welcome its publication.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Waugh MP
Minister for Early Education