



## Rights to free school transport

In most cases it's up to the LA to decide what transport is necessary. But your child will be automatically entitled to free transport if they:

- are between five and sixteen years old
- And
- attend the nearest suitable school, and the school is further away than the 'statutory walking distance'

the statutory walking distance is:

- Two miles for pupils under eight
- Three miles for those aged eight and over

From 1st September 2008 pupils will be entitled to free school transport if they are from a low income family ( in full receipt of WFTC) and they go to one of their nearest suitable schools, and the schools are between two and six miles away.

Or:

The nearest preferred school by their parents on the grounds of religion or belief, and the school is two and fifteen miles away.

The statutory walking distance is not necessarily the shortest distance by road. It is measured by the shortest route along which a child, accompanied as necessary, can walk with reasonable safety. As such, the route measured may include footpaths, and other pathways, as well as recognised roads. If there is no such route, the LA must provide free transport no matter what distance you live from the school