



Dudley Street, Bilston, WV14 0LN

Tel: 01902 493797

Web: www.ormistonswbacademy.co.uk

Email: enquiries@oswba.co.uk

Mr Rod Hughes | Principal BEng (Hons), NPQH

'LEARNING FOR LIFE, SECURING SUCCESS'

ALA/MPA/February 2019

15 February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

STUDENT TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

Further to our consultation last year, we would like to thank all parents who contributed to the process and have discussed transport options. The Academy has been in the privileged position of subsidising student transport for the past 7 years. As you will understand, this has been a significant financial commitment and this year the Academy had no alternative but to implement half-termly charges for the comprehensive and fully staffed travel service. **Summer Term 2019 will be the final term we can subsidise the transport costs for the Academy.**

We have always attempted to be as reasonable as possible with transport charges. However, due to falling numbers of students now accessing Academy transport we are now unable to provide the service at a competitive price, without a significant subsidy being paid by the Academy. Due to the constraints on school funding, we are now unable to do this. **The cost of our contracted transport is in excess of £200 per day or £38,000 per year. Based on 70 students accessing transport, this is approximately £542 each per year.**

This leaves the Academy with the following two options, which we would appreciate your view on:

- **Option A** – A fully funded service paid for by parents/carers at a provisional cost of **£45.00 per month** (dependent on uptake)
- **Option B** – No transport provided by the Academy from Autumn Term 2019/2020.

Alternative **public** transport can be provided by **National Express West Midlands**. They offer a term plus bus pass for students up to the age of 18 at a cost of:

- £32.75 every 4 weeks to be bought online or in store
- £29.50 a month by Direct Debit (12 months for the price of 10)

This is significantly cheaper than what it would cost for the Academy to continue providing transport services and can also be used at any time including evenings and weekends by students.

Government legislation makes it clear that there are expected 'statutory walking distances' for schools and academies. For students of secondary school age **this is set at 3 miles from home**. This means that we are only obliged to provide transport for students who live more than 3 miles away from the Academy. As our catchment area has changed significantly over the past 7 years, we now have very few students who now live more than 3 miles from our site.

To aid our planning for next year, we would appreciate a response to this letter **with a preference for Option A or Option B**. Please complete and return the attached form to the Academy reception **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 1 MARCH 2019**. If you believe you live more than 3 miles away and may be eligible for support provided by the Academy, please complete this section.

Yours sincerely

Martyn Palfreyman
Vice Principal

TRANSPORT – PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO RECEPTION NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 01 MARCH 2019. Alternatively please complete the form via the link; <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TZRDQNK>

Student Name		Form	
Address		Post Code	

I am aware of the transport consultation and understand that the Academy is consulting on two options. **Please tick the option you would prefer;**

Option A	A fully funded service paid for by parents/carers at a provisional cost of £45.00 per month (dependent upon uptake)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Option B	No transport provided by the Academy from Autumn Term 2019/2020.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students who live over 3 miles away (please see map below) I believe my child lives more than 3 miles away from the Academy so may be eligible for support. Please tick this box if applicable. Any address details will be checked as part of this process.		<input type="checkbox"/>

Parent Name		Signature	
Date			

Please return this form to Reception – NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 1 MARCH 2019.

