

ALA/MPA/June 2019

17 June 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

STUDENT TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2019

Thank you to parents and carers who responded to our recent consultation with regards to Academy transport.

The Academy has been in the privileged position of subsidising student transport for the past 7 years and as you will understand, this has been a significant financial commitment. Further to our consultation last year and earlier this year, we would like to thank all parents who contributed to the process and have discussed transport options.

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

The consultation responses were discussed at a recent Governors Meeting and due to the low number of responses in favour of a fully funded service paid for by parent/carers, the Governors have agreed to option B. Therefore the Academy will not provide any transport from September 2019. This decision is not taken lightly but legislation makes it clear that schools do not have to provide any transport for students living within a 3 mile radius of the building. With a decrease in school funding, we are now unable to fund a free or significantly subsidised service.

National Express West Midlands 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, with many bus routes and services terminate the Bilston bus station that is a 2 minute walk from the Academy.

Yours sincerely



Martyn Palfreyman
Vice Principal