April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

**Letter A - Provision of School Transport**

The provision of school transport no longer rests with schools and we now rely on external companies to provide home to school transport for our students.

The school has a number of buses which are available to bring children to and from school. Furthermore, there are also trains from Greenbank Station running between Mobberley and Mouldsworth and from Hartford station running between Crewe and Liverpool.

Please visit the schools website for more detailed and up-to-date information at <https://st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk/travel-details/>

**Current Bus Routes: Bus Company:**

Winsford – Whitegate Arriva

Winsford – Wharton Arriva

Helsby Arrowebrook

Middlewich Stanways

Warrington Walkers **(Please note this route only is operated by Walkers and payments are made each day to the driver)**

The **first four routes** are operated on a School Managed Service and **tickets will need to be purchased in advance from school through Parent Pay.** Bus tickets for these four routes **cannot** be purchased from the driver.

Alternatively, you can contact school to request a barcoded letter for payment via a Paypoint facility if you would prefer.

**Individual Tickets:**

Individual single journey tickets can be purchased in books of 10 via Parent Pay for any of these routes and collected from the Finance Office in advance of travel. These tickets are transferable and can be used on any journey, inward or homebound, on any day.

**Termly Bus Pass:**

There is also a termly payment option available (return or single) on Parent Pay for each of these routes. Payments can be made in instalments during the term. However, payment must be made in full before the end of that half term.

Once students have had their photograph taken, a bus pass will be printed and issued. A temporary bus ticket will be issued until these are available. If a bus pass is mislaid, then a replacement will be issued for a fee of £5.00 once payment has been made on Parent Pay.

This year, Cheshire West have made a change to the process for determining eligibility for free home to school transport for children transferring to secondary school in September 2020. There is no need to apply for transport to the Council. Your child is automatically having their eligibility assessed and you will be informed of the outcome by 1 June 2020. If your child is deemed not to be eligible for transport you will be advised of the appeal process in your outcome letter

If your child is deemed to be eligible for transport your bus pass will be sent out to you by Friday 14 August 2020 (please note this does not apply to change in preference/late/in year applications). If you have not heard about your eligibility by 1 June 2020 or received a bus pass by Friday 14 August 2020 please contact the School Transport Team on 0300 123 7039.

Please can you complete the online form by clicking on the link below. If you **do** require Bus Transport, please complete the whole form indicating the bus route/stop your child requires. If you **do not** require transport, please complete Questions 1-3 only.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=TQCEKBxgKE67QeEw___TRIHkjCfEh4dFnx5P6NOtxBZUMkNZNEtXMVM4UjBTV1ZFOUFTUEFQUU1PUiQlQCN0PWcu>

This information is essential to enable the school to re-negotiate contracts with the bus companies. Therefore, please can you complete the form by **31st May 2020** at the latest so we are able to confirm numbers required for each bus route.

If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at c.jones@st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

C Jones

**Mrs C Jones**

**Finance Officer**