



AE04AT

July 2023

Dear Parent

### **A1 Bus – Willaston, Neston & Parkgate areas - 2023/24 service**

WKGS and CGGS have worked together to restore this route as a school operated service from September 2023. This puts the service on a similar basis to the other school operated services and means that its continuation is free from short term commercial and political decision making.

Annual bus passes for students who wish to travel on the school operated A1 service from Willaston, Neston & Parkgate areas are now available to purchase for the 2023/24 academic year.

Parents are reminded that they must set up a new payment to purchase an annual bus pass each academic year. It is important to note that the pass is an annual pass and that we do not refund the cost for any time your child does not require transport between September and the end of July.

To guarantee a seat, the deadline to purchase your child's bus pass for 2023/24 and signing up to our direct debit payment scheme is on Friday 28th July 2023. We will continue to accept applications after this deadline and will try to accommodate your preference if we can.

If you are unsure about your child returning to West Kirby for 6th Form, we would advise that you book your place on the bus, as they do fill up quickly. If they do not return for 6th form, any money paid will be refunded.

The schools continue to work with the local operator Al's Coaches to provide a safe, well managed and affordable service that gets your child to school on time each day. The majority of buses and coaches used have CCTV and all have seat belts fitted. We can confirm that the vehicle previously used for the A1 route will not be used for the new school operated service.

### **Cost and Payment Options**

These transport services ensure the highest levels of passenger safety and value for money for parents. The schools do not aim to make a profit from providing this service. Last year, we increased the financial support available to eligible families from £450 to £600 per school year.

- A1 bus from Cheshire, Willaston & Neston - £855.00 or £85.50 per month over 10 months

You may pay for the pass in full or by 10 x monthly instalments. The first payment will be taken when you sign up, with subsequent payments being taken on the 2nd of September until the 2nd of April 2024 if you opt to pay in instalments.



## Travel Financial Support - WKGS

Financial support with travel to and from school is available for students who will be in Years 7 to 11 at West Kirby Grammar School and who meet the eligibility criteria for Deprivation Pupil Premium. This is funded by our Pupil Premium funding received from Central Government. Eligibility is assessed each academic year. The support is £600.00 per school year.

Deprivation Pupil Premium is received by the school for students who are eligible for Free School Meals or have been eligible in the previous six years. If you wish to apply for Free School Meals, please apply at the link below:

### [Free School Meal Application](#)

To find out how to apply for travel support please visit our website [Travel Support Enquiry Form](#)

Sixth Form students may apply for support with travel costs from the [16-19 Bursary Fund](#)

## Purchase a bus pass

To apply for the pass and set up your payment, please complete the [Bus Pass Application Form: Academic Year 2023/24](#) by clicking on the link and selecting the A1 bus from the drop down menu and your preferred stop (nearest one to the stop that your child will use). To guarantee a seat, the deadline to apply for your child's bus pass for 2023/24 and signing up to a payment scheme is **Friday 28th July 2023**. We will continue to accept applications after this deadline and will try to accommodate your preference if we can.

When you have completed the form and clicked Submit, you will be directed to click on the appropriate link which takes you to the Calday School Shop. This will enable you to set up your preferred payment option for your bus service/stop.

When we have received your first payment, we will prepare your child's annual pass. You will receive the bus pass and a copy of the timetable, by post, before Friday 25th August 2023.

By purchasing a pass, you are agreeing to the Terms and Conditions and the Code of Conduct which we have attached. We have also prepared a FAQ's sheet (also attached) which we hope will answer any questions you might have. These documents can also be found on the Calday school website at [calday.co.uk/travel](http://calday.co.uk/travel)

If you have any queries with these arrangements, please contact the school using this email: [buspass@calday.co.uk](mailto:buspass@calday.co.uk)

Yours faithfully,

*Andrew Eckford*

**Mr Andrew Eckford**  
**Director of Finance**