

To: Parents/Carers of pupils who travel
on service 009 to West Park School
(sent via school)

Telephone
Ask for Philip Smith
Email schooltransport@derbyshire.gov.uk
Our ref
Your ref

Date 07 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Revised Home to School Transport Arrangements

You may be aware that we have capacity issues on service 009 to West Park School and the Council has been in discussion with the operator and school to try and resolve this.

The vehicle provided by Littles Travel is a high-capacity double deck bus with space for 80 passengers and 58 pupils have been issued with a free bus pass because they meet the eligibility criteria for assistance. Most of these pupils live in Ockbrook but there are also a small number of students in Borrowash who have a bus pass. This school bus service is provided for students who are entitled to a free pass but any spare space is available to fare paying students. It appears there may be up to 7 students too many for the bus on busy days and it is, unfortunately, not possible to provide a bus with more capacity. As funding to provide school bus services is directly linked to students' eligibility to transport assistance (a free bus pass), the Council does not have any budget available to provide a second vehicle to help cover the route.

We will have to take action to ensure students with a bus pass can travel and from **Monday 11th November**, the route of the bus will be reversed so it starts in Ockbrook. I appreciate this may cause issues in Borrowash and apologise in advance if this is the case. It is obviously not an ideal situation but the Council would urge families of fare paying students to consider alternative transport options such as public bus services. You will be aware that the indigo, i4 and 009 service operate in the area and you can find up to date timetable information at [Plan Your Journey | Traveline](#). The cost of travelling on public bus services is slightly more expensive but this can be reduced to £1.50 per journey with a b_line card. If your child does not already have one of these, you can apply for a pass at [b_line discount travel card - Derbyshire County Council](#)

With regard to the return journey home, we will ask school to help the driver to ensure pass holders board first and fare paying pupils can then occupy any spare places until the bus is full. If the parents of fare paying students feel their child/ren may be entitled to transport assistance, they can make an application on-line at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/get2school

Revised Timetable from Monday 11th November 2024

07.55 Ockbrook, Green Lane /Opposite Ridings
07.58 Cross Keys
08.00 Opposite Queens Head
08.03 Borrowwash, Hawthorne Avenue
08.05 Priory Avenue
08.07 Derby Road
08.08 Opposite Co-op
08.15 West Park School

Returns at 3.10

Yours sincerely

Philip Smith

Senior Transport Officer (Schools)
Derbyshire County Council

Copy to: Littles Travel
West Park School