



10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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Gipsy Lane  
Balsall Common  
Coventry  
CV7 7FW

Tel: 01676 535222  
Fax: 01676 536735  
office@heart-england.co.uk  
www.heart-england.co.uk

Principal:  
Jacqueline Hughes-Williams

Dear Parent/Carer

**UPDATE ON THE CHANGES TO TRANSPORT SERVICES:  
HEART OF ENGLAND SCHOOL**

We are pleased to be able to confirm that all services previously provided by Travel DeCoursey will be maintained for the Autumn term at no extra cost to parents.

**Service Routes 825, 826, 182 and 183**

Service Routes 825, 826, 182 and 183 are contracted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. If your child benefits from Transport Assistance then they will continue to have access to these services free of charge. **If your child does not benefit from Transport Assistance and would like to access these services they can now do so by purchasing a pass directly from the Transport Office at Solihull Council and should contact the Council directly to secure a bus pass on one of these routes. The price for an Autumn term pass has been set at £115.** Details regarding routes can be found on the school website. Parents who have questions about these routes and in relation to purchasing a bus pass for one of these routes should contact the Transport Office at SMBC.

**Service Routes 180, 181 and 184**

Service routes 180, 181 and 184 are now contracted by Heart of England School. Provision has been secured for the whole of the Autumn term. The school has been able to access government Covid-relief funding through Solihull Local Authority to be able to offer a discounted rate to ensure that parents will not need to pay more than they would have paid for a bus pass prior to the pandemic.

**Consequently, parents can now purchase a bus pass for the 180, 181 and 184 services directly from Heart of England School at a price of £115 for the Autumn term.**

**To apply for a bus pass for the 180, 181 and 184 services you will need to complete and sign the application form and code of conduct form attached to this communication.**



With the pass already discounted at £115, no additional financial assistance will be available for the Autumn 2020 term. Families on income support or who are facing severe financial difficulties may be able to apply for financial support to assist with any additional cost of travel beyond the Autumn term subject to an application process.

Finally, having managed to maintain the cost and integrity of school bus services for the Autumn term, we are now embarking on a process of competitive tendering to secure the best value service for 2021 and beyond.

Prices and the pricing structure may change as a result of the tendering process; where discounts relating to siblings, annual payment and Year 11s (assuming timing of examinations does not change) will also be assessed. The tendering process will take into consideration the views of school governors and the views of parents as expressed by our parent panel before any decision is made regarding our preferred provider.

As soon as the outcome of this tendering process has been completed we will advise our parents.

In the meantime should you have any further questions related to school transport please email: [office@heart-england.co.uk](mailto:office@heart-england.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

Andrew Livingstone  
Senior Assistant Principal

Jacqueline Hughes-Williams  
Principal