

## Top Home to School Transport Myths

This information sheet is designed to dispel some of the myths associated with home to school transport for children and young people of school age. We often hear the same stories from parents about why their local authority won't provide home to school transport for their child, sometimes they are not legal reasons. Below are the top reasons we hear which are **NOT TRUE**.

- 1. Myth: 'We don't provide transport for children with your child's disability/need/condition'** – decisions must be made on an individual basis. There must be no blanket policy to refuse transport for any group of children.
- 2. Myth: 'We don't provide transport for anyone who lives within statutory walking distance to the school'** – children with SEN, disabilities or mobility problems who cannot reasonably be expected to walk to school are eligible for free home to school transport arrangements however near the school.
- 3. Myth: 'We don't provide transport for anyone receiving the higher rate mobility component of DLA'** – if your child receives this benefit it is unlawful for this to be taken into consideration when making the decision about eligibility for school transport.
- 4. Myth: 'Your child can't have transport as she/he doesn't have a statement'** – some children can be eligible for free home to school transport whether or not they have a statement.
- 5. Myth: 'We only provide transport to schools within this Local Authority'** – the local authority where your child lives must provide home to school transport even if the school is in a different local authority.

### Where can I find out more?

IPSEA have a thorough and easy to understand school transport information sheet on their website:

<http://www.ipsea.org.uk/Apps/Content/HTML/?id=115>

IPSEA also have a checklist to work out whether or not your child qualifies for free home to school transport:

<http://www.ipsea.org.uk/Apps/Content/HTML/?id=115#parentChecklist>

If you need to talk to someone you can contact your local parent partnership service, who offer free, confidential information and advice to parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs. You can find your local service here: [www.parentpartnership.org.uk](http://www.parentpartnership.org.uk) or call 020 7843 6058.

Contact a Family have a Helpline for parents of children and young people with SEN - helpline 0808 808 3555 / email [helpline@cafamily.org.uk](mailto:helpline@cafamily.org.uk).

