Cambridgeshire County Council's Education Transport Department currently offers free bus transport for students in Years 7-11 to and from Comberton Village College from the following villages:

Barton (Wimpole Rd only), Bourn, Caldecote, Caxton, Coton, Dry Drayton, East Hatley, Grantchester, Gamlingay, Great Eversden, Hardwick, Harlton, Haslingfield, Kingston, Little Eversden, Longstowe and Madingley.

After May half-term of the summer term before your child joins Year 7, you must apply to the council if you are entitled to a free bus pass. These are not issued automatically. You can apply here.

Once you have made the initial application, you should receive your child's bus pass each year during the summer holidays. However, if it has not arrived by the end of August, please contact Cambridgeshire County Council. <u>E-mail</u> or telephone 0345 042 5208.

Further information and the eligibility criteria can be found here

If you require transport for a child with additional needs, please click <u>here</u> for main school students and <u>here</u> for post-16.

Comberton Sixth Form currently offers seats on their own buses which cover all these villages except Bourn, Harlton Grantchester and Coton. It may be possible to purchase a spare seat on a council bus from these (and other) villages subject to availability. If you meet the council's eligibility criteria for low income families, you can apply for a seat from any of the catchment villages at a reduced rate. There is no free transport for sixth formers but students can also apply for a bursary which can be used to help pay the contribution required.

The paid-for Comberton routes currently start at Royston, Melbourn, St Neots, Bar Hill and Swavesey and cover a large number of towns and villages including Potton and Papworth.

The full timetables for both the council and Comberton-run buses are available on the travel page of the website. Costs are based on distance travelled and are reviewed annually.

For further information, please **e-mail** the bus manager.

Passes

Eligible pupils should carry a valid bus pass at all time. The bus companies reserve the right to refuse travel to those not in possession of a valid pass in their own name. Free passes on council services are automatically issued annually during the school summer holidays for those entitled students. Spare seats are paid for and passes issued on a termly basis. Comberton-run buses use an e-pass system. Students are issued with a QR code that must be scanned at the start of every journey. These passes will be disabled in the event the fare is not paid or the pass is no longer required.

If a council pass is lost or stolen you should also obtain a temporary pass immediately. These can be issued for a maximum of two weeks while a new one is purchased, from the County Council; currently costing £8.50. You can apply on-line by clicking here

If you are travelling on a service provided by Comberton and your QR code (or phone) is not working, please see Mrs Callander in the sixth form office or Mrs Collins in the general office and they can provide a print-out of the code to scan.

Behaviour on buses

All students travelling on buses are subject to all relevant areas in the Code of Conduct operating at Comberton Village College.

Full details are available here.

In addition there is a scale of sanctions for those who fall short of the expected standards. This includes repeatedly failing to show a pass when asked and travelling without authorisation.

Late buses

Please advise your child they should wait at their stop 30 minutes after the scheduled pick-up time in the morning before returning home. The bus company can be contacted after 15 minutes.

If you have any questions about free school transport or to report the non-arrival/late arrival of a school bus, please telephone education transport on 0345 045 5208 or contact your child's bus company directly (see numbers of separate document on the website).

Lost Property

If your child leaves something on their bus, you can contact the operator directly to see if it has been found. At your request they will usually bring it back to the college, but may otherwise hold it at their depot.

The numbers of all our current operators can be found on the travel page of the website.

Visits

As most of the buses are fully loaded, we are unable to issue temporary passes to those wishing to visit a friend's house. Parents/carers need to make arrangements to transport children or they should use the public bus services and pay as appropriate. If a child has to stay at an address other than their own, we will issue a temporary pass where space allows. Applications should be made here, giving as much notice as possible. Students will not be issued with passes on the day of travel except in emergencies following a telephone call from a parent/carer.

Moving House

If you move house and your child needs to travel on a different council bus, you must apply for a new bus pass. You can do this by clicking here.

The council will not accept applications until you have proof of your new address so it is advisable for your child to get a temporary pass as soon as you move in as a new pass can take 10 days to arrive.

If you need to switch to a paid-for bus, please contact the bus manager here

Public Bus

Whippet 18

This service between Cambridge and St Neots stops either at Comberton Village College or on West St, depending on the time of day. It also stops in Cambourne and Bourn on the westward route towards St Neots and at Barton, Grantchester and Newham towards Cambridge. The timetable is available here