

July 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Update on Proposed Bus Routes for St Aidan's and St John Fisher Students - September 2016

St Aidan's and St John Fisher are continuing to work closely with the bus companies to ensure that our students are able to access both schools from September 2016. Since our last communication with parents and guardians there have been a number of changes which are listed below:-

- Leeds routes have changed their payment method. Previously parents/guardians paid for their children's passes through Generation M. As of 2016 payment for passes will be made directly through the individual bus company
- The changes in West Yorkshire were only agreed on 1st June 2016 and we are constantly making changes to our website as the bus companies make changes to their timetables to accommodate as many of our students as they can. The companies bringing students in from West Yorkshire are A & A, Connexions and Tetleys.
- A&A, Abbotts, Atkinsons, Connexions, Stephensons and Tower who are covering our North Yorkshire Routes are also making changes to try and accommodate as many stops as they can. Again our websites are constantly being update to accommodate these changes.

www.staidans.co.uk/transport sifchs.org.uk/information/transport/

As the bus routes are no longer subsidised by the local authority the bus companies are taking on the risk of the proposed routes and they will not be able to run them if they are not sustainable.

The bus companies that St Aidan's and St John Fisher have been in talks with will guarantee that:-

- 1. They drop off and pick up from the school sites
- 2. Guarantee a place on the school bus so long as the student has signed up for a pass
- 3. Been accommodating in trying to respond to the parents' requests for extra stops
- 4. Taken on new routes that would otherwise have been withdrawn
- 5. Regular drivers so that they get to know the students
- 6. Able to respond to early picks ups at the end of term or should school encounter a problem on site that prevents its operation

Therefore please may we ask that if you intend to send your child or children to school by the designated bus companies that you sign up for a bus pass as soon as possible.

We would point out that the contract will be between parents and the bus company providing the service and will not involve St Aidan's or St John Fisher in any way.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in this difficult situation

Yours sincerely

John Wood Headteacher

Rob Pritchard Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr J Wood