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Children's Services
Special Educational Needs
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Dear Parents,

Thank you for your transport requests for the 2020-21 Academic School Year.

The SEND Team have been working collaboratively with the School Transport Team to process your requests, and as such we endeavour to have processed all requests by 20/08/2020. Any previous transport arrangements remain unchanged, unless we have been otherwise advised. As you know these are very unprecedented times, and our normal processes and timeframes have been affected.

In the height of the pandemic lockdown, many of our Taxi operators were still transporting young people to and from schools. Each individual operator took their own precautions in regards to social distancing and the use of PPE.

Schools are set to re-open fully in September, which means that the numbers of young people per vehicle will increase. As such we have had no clear government guidance in terms of navigating this safely.

The Local Authority have undertaken a risk assessment of the upcoming school year, and taken into consideration as much as possible students being transported within 'bubbles', the taxis themselves operating as bubbles within their own rights. Some schools have indicated they are going to have staggered starts and have sent us their lists of student bubbles.

Ultimately we want to make sure your children are able to continue accessing education, and arrive to school in the safest manner possible.

We apologise for any delays to responses, and ask that you please continue to bear with us as we all adjust to this new way of life.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact the SEND Team, CTU group on <a href="mailto:ctu@wokingham.gov.uk">ctu@wokingham.gov.uk</a> or you can email myself directly at <a href="mailto:keisha.cudjoe@wokingham.gov.uk">keisha.cudjoe@wokingham.gov.uk</a> .

Yours sincerely,

Keisha Cudjoe SEN Case Officer (Transport Lead)