

# PERSONAL TRAVEL BUDGETS

## PTB

An alternative option for parents and carers who currently receive **travel assistance for students with special educational needs and disabilities**

City of Edinburgh Council • June 2025

### WHAT IS A PTB?

A Personal Travel Budget (PTB) is available if your child is aged between 5 and 18 and is eligible for Specialist Travel Assistance — usually those children who receive assistance from The City of Edinburgh Council for travelling to and from school.

### WHO CAN GET A PTB?



#### Financial Need

Some families would prefer to take their own child to school but can't afford to.



#### Stressful Transport

Some children find Council-provided transport too long, stressful and tiring.



#### After-School Activities

Some children attend after-school clubs which they can't access due to transport leaving at the end of the school day.

### HOW IS IT CALCULATED?



Payment will be calculated on an individual basis, taking into consideration **the child's needs as well as the current potential cost to the council** of transporting the child to school. Each PTB will be tailored individually to each child.

### WHAT CAN I USE A PTB FOR?



#### Drive Your Child

Cover the cost of driving your child to school.



#### Share Arrangements

Share transport arrangements with other parents or carers.



#### Sibling Childcare

Cover the cost of childcare for siblings so you can take your child to school.



#### Passenger Assistant

Pay for a passenger assistant to support your child's travel.









#### Travel Pass

Buy a travel pass for public transport.

✓ You can spend the PTB however you like, as long as your child travels in a way that ensures their **safety, attendance** and enables them to arrive at school **on time and in a positive manner ready to learn**.

## PAYMENT DETAILS

 <b>Responsibility</b>	Payment is made to the parent/carer who agrees to be responsible for their child's travel and attendance at their school or educational establishment.
 <b>Payment Method</b>	Equal monthly instalments paid into a nominated bank account within the first 7 days of each month (excluding August).
 <b>Benefits Impact</b>	Personal Travel Budgets should not affect any other benefits you may receive. However, it is best to check with your benefit provider.
 <b>Attendance</b>	If attendance drops below 90% or the child persistently arrives late, the PTB is at risk of being reduced, suspended or stopped.
 <b>Circumstances Change</b>	If circumstances change the PTB can be adjusted or, at the parent/carer's request, revert back to Council assistance with one month's notice.
 <b>Notify Us</b>	You must notify our department of any changes — such as school leavers, exclusion, or prolonged absence due to medical needs.

[Apply for free school transport – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)

---