

INDEPENDENT TRAVEL TEAM

Guide for Parents & Carers



What is Independent Travel Training?

Independent travel is a crucial life skill that gives young people the freedom to fulfil their potential and live a full life.

Independent Travel Training (ITT) provides young people with the knowledge and skills they need to travel independently, whilst providing parents and carers with peace of mind that their young people are travelling safely.

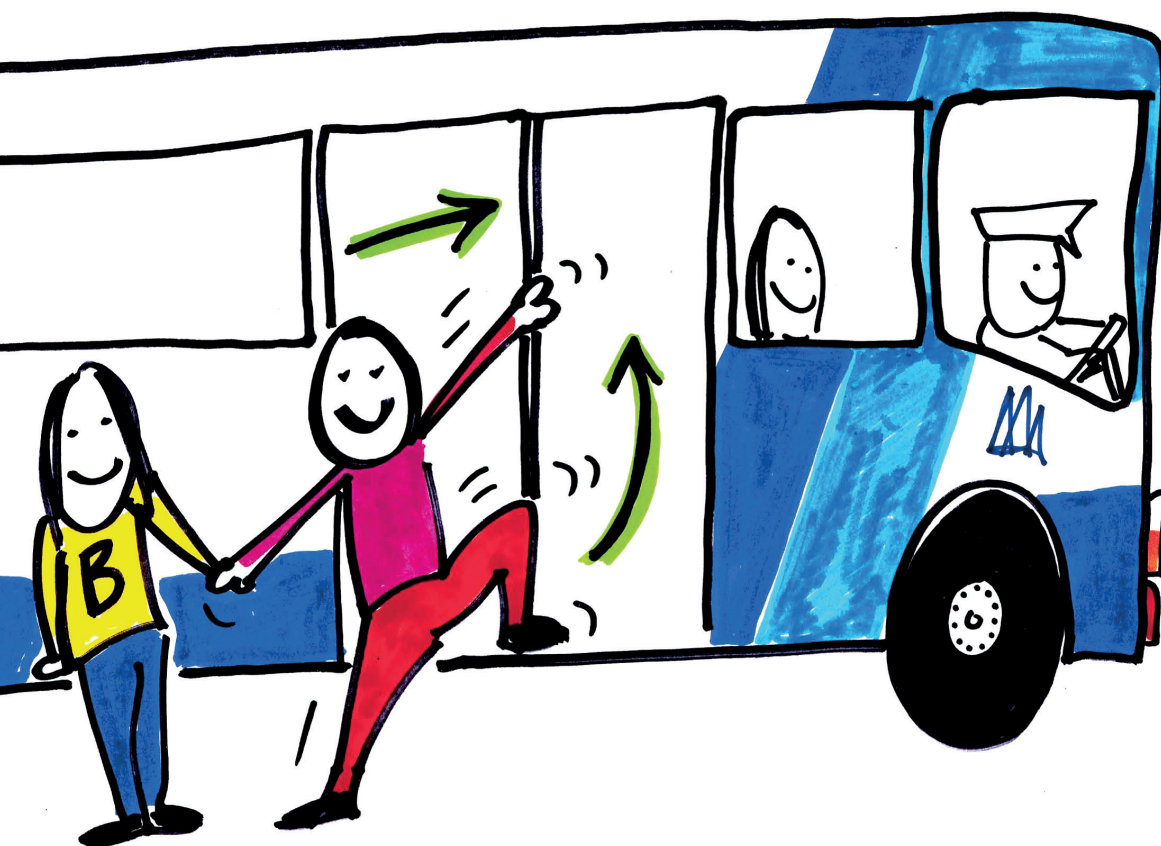
ITT is a free service and is part of the curriculum. There is a team of experienced Independent Travel Trainers currently working within your school/college.



How do we do it?

We offer training in the practical skills required to travel independently.

- Route knowledge
- The agreed route will be specific and tailored to meet the individual's needs.
- Using a bus: how to use a bus pass, where to sit, how to stop the bus etc.
- Enabling people to develop their knowledge and confidence.
- Working at the pace of the individual.



What about safety?

We manage risk by training in the following areas:

- Road safety
- Personal safety
- Acceptable behaviour
- Contingency planning—"what if?" situations

Once the student has completed a period of travel training and it is agreed that they have demonstrated the knowledge and skills required to travel safely and independently, the student will be asked to lead another travel trainer on their journey. If this is completed safely and successfully they will be officially "signed off" for travel training and awarded a certificate, recognising their achievements.



What are the benefits of Travel Training?

Travel Training has been shown to have positive effects on the lives of the young people who are trained, as well as those around them.

Travelling independently allows young people to do more social and educational activities and helps them to maintain better relationships. Independent travel skills also help to open up employment opportunities after leaving school or college. This all contributes to a more fulfilled life.

Successful travel training enables families to do more things together and provides more time for separate activities.

How does my child access travel training?

Before any training takes place, the school or college will first assess whether the young person is ready to be considered for ITT. To complete travel training the young person must have the potential, once successfully trained to travel to and from school or college (or Pool Meadow to catch the shuttle bus) completely independently (i.e. without an escort).

For a referral for travel training speak to your school or college or contact the Independent Travel Team for more information (see contact details below).

“I hadn't caught a bus in years but I learnt to find how and where to go”

How will this affect my child's eligibility for travel assistance?

If you are in receipt of any form of travel assistance and your child has been signed off to travel independently from home to school, travel assistance will be cancelled and if required, a bus pass will be issued for your child's journey to and from school.

“Travel training has made my life good”

For more information please contact :

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