

## **Suffolk County Council is implementing changes to its School Travel Policy for Statutory School age children taking effect from September 2019.**

Children living in Suffolk who will be starting at a new school in September 2019 will be eligible for SCC funded school travel when they are over 2 miles (under 8 years old) or 3 miles (over 8) walking distance from their nearest suitable school that would have had a place available for them. This would be whether or not an application was made for a place at that school. Full details about SCC funded school travel, including additional arrangements for low income families and those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), can be found at [www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel](http://www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel).

The new policy is being phased in. This means that children who receive Suffolk County Council (SCC) funded school travel in the 2018/2019 school year will continue to receive this whilst they continue to attend the same school unless they turn 8 years of age and live between 2 and 3 miles from their current school, or move house at which time eligibility would be reassessed.

For those starting at secondary/upper schools in September 2019, parents will be informed if their child is eligible for SCC funded travel by 30 April 2019. Information about those who are eligible to SCC funded travel will be provided to the child's receiving school. Beyond September 2019, changes will continue to be implemented as each year group starts a new school or a family move to a new house.

For transport in September 2019 and all future years families whose child/ren are eligible for SCC funded school travel will need to opt in to receive their transport.

This important change means that **all parents will have to opt-in by 31 May each year** for school travel to be provided in the following school year as this will no longer be provided automatically.