



Travel and Waste Management Statement

December 2024

Introduction

Bridge College is a single-story purpose-built building offering specialist education for young people 16 to 25 with learning disabilities, complex health needs and autism.

The College is located at Whitworth Street in Openshaw, Manchester. M11 2GR.

Student Staff and Visitor Numbers

We currently have 87 students enrolled at the college, each student has access to one-to-one support.

The operational opening hours of the site are 6am until 6.15pm Monday to Friday

The college currently employs 141 members of staff (contractual and agency). The college also has other members of the Trust team who work from site, typically this will be between 1 to 4 people daily.

One student attends with their own carers which increases the numbers in college by 2.

Bridge College welcomes visitors to the college daily and runs events throughout the year. There would be an increase in numbers of people in the building depending on the visit/event.

A smaller run meeting/event would increase numbers by 1-50 additional people, a larger event could attract an additional 100 people to the site. Events run during learning hours or between 3pm and 6pm. College visitors to these events would be parents/carers, prospective students, contractors, members of the public looking for employment, other specialist education providers, local authority representatives/teams, other service providers.

Weekend, site access to the hydro pool area for baby/toddler activities. Operating hours are 7.30am until 6pm, 2 staff each day, 20 babies/toddlers with an adult every 30 minutes from 8.30am until 4.30pm.

Car and other Vehicle Parking

The current car parking capacity on the site is for 56 cars, 6 accessible spaces and 7 mini-bus spaces.

The college has a fleet of 6 mini-bus vehicles, currently comprising of:

- 2 x Zafira 4.65m (L) x 1.82m (W) x 1.68m (H)
- 1 x Renault 5.8m (L) x 1.99m (W) x 2.49m (H)
- 1 x Transit 5.8m (L) x 1.9m(W) x 2.5m (H)
- 1 x Peugeot Boxer 2.5m (L) x 2.5m (W) x 2.5 (H)
- 1 x Vivaro 5m (L) x 2.2m (W) x 1.9m (H)

Site access is needed for :

1. Staff, visitors, contractors, parents and carers, deliveries and public access the college site.
2. Local authority transport providers from Manchester, Stockport, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham, Tameside, Trafford, Cheshire West and Cheshire East, other providers within the Northwest as needed.
3. Parents and carers who do not have access to LA transport support their young person to and from college in vehicles from a car to an adapted vehicle with wheelchair access.
4. Vehicles accessing the college site provided by the local authority vary in size from an estate car to a long wheeled based minibus with the capacity for 17 seats (configuration for seating varies from bus to bus)

Local authority vehicles for 2024-2025

- Manchester - 8 vehicles, all minibus vehicles with multi occupancy that can be configured, mostly long wheelbases, largest vehicle length approximately 7m
- Stockport - 1 Estate car
- Trafford – 1 Car and one wheelchair accessible vehicle
- Oldham – 1 estate car
- Salford – 2 estate cars and one small minibus
- Tameside – 2 x small minibuses
- Wigan – 1 car
- Bury – 1 car
- Cheshire East and Cheshire West – 2 x cars
- 3rd Party/parents/carers – 1 minibus. 6 wheelchair accessible vehicles, 25 vehicles.

Regular Deliveries and Service Vehicles

Deliveries to site are made daily by the following:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 1. General parcel deliveries | daily | Van varying sizes up to Ford Transit size |
| 2. Royal Mail | daily | small van |
| 3. Biffa waste collection | 3 collections a week | 15.5m ³ capacity
11.5m(L)x2.6m(W) |
| 4. Brakes food deliveries | 2 deliveries a week | 18 tonne vehicles
10m(L)x2.44m(W) |

Waste Management

The college has a contract arrangement with Biffa for the collection of waste. Controlled Waste Transfer notes are appended to this statement.

Non-vehicle Site Provisions

Other than car parking we have under cover storage capacity for 15 bicycles for staff and visitors.

We have one staff member who attends work on a mobility scooter.

The college has adapted bicycles, and these are stored in a 20ft and a 10 ft container on the college grounds.

There are a further 4 containers within the grounds that are used for storage of specialist equipment.

Transport links.

Bridge College is accessible off Ashton Old Road by travelling down Nuttall Street and Whitworth Street or by a pedestrian only access point from Pottery Lane these access routes both pedestrian and for vehicles are small side roads that are of a state of dis-repair which cause issues for people with mobility issues and those who rely on wheelchairs for access.

Ashton Old Road is serviced regularly by public transport busses, running to and from Manchester, Stalybridge, Dukinfield, Ashton under Lyne.

Pottery Lane is serviced with public transport running to and from Cheetham Hill, Belle Vue, Hulme, Trafford Park, Longsight, Rusholme, Salford Quays, Denton, Hyde, Hattersley.

Ashbury's train station is next to the college off Pottery Lane however this is only accessible by way of 40 steps, meaning anyone that uses a wheelchair or has mobility issues is not able to access the station. The nearest accessible station is Manchester Picadilly and then a bus ride to the college or by way of taxi.

There is a tram stop (VeloPark 1647metres) away from the college, this tram line provides a route to Manchester Piccadilly, Eccles and Ashton under Lyne.

Issues encountered due to location.

Staff working at the college travel to work using all forms of transport as above but find that this to be unreliable due to frequent cancellations of the rail network which then causes access issues on the running trains due to overcrowding. Buses run frequently on the access routes but being located next to a large mainstream college these can become full due to the large number of students that study there.

Pottery Lane and Ashton Old Road are both very busy roads and meet at a major junction all off which cause delays in reaching the college as well as ensuring the safety of our students getting to the college and going home but also for them accessing any offsite learning opportunities.

Objectives/outcomes.

Some staff access work by way of public transport and staff are encouraged to use this if possible. This helps to reduce the number of vehicles accessing the site daily.

Local Authorities work within their environmental strategic plan to ensure that they are running the least number of vehicles possible to the site utilising the most suitable vehicles for the route with the needs of the students taken into consideration and are routed to ensure they go on as direct a route as possible.

Students accessing offsite learning where it is possible are supported to walk or use public transport, the college however do have a fleet of vehicles to allow those students who are unable to access public transport access learning. Student groups where there are more than 2/3 wheelchairs are not able to access public transport due to space restrictions.

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