

Wiltshire Council

Council

16 October 2018

Item 6 – Public Participation - From Jo Waltham

To Councillor Laura Mayes, Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Skills

Question (P18-13)

What should be the maximum travel time to school for a child with special educational needs?

Response

Guidance taken from DfE Home to School Travel guidance, last updated 2016.

34. As a general guide, transport arrangements should not require a child to make several changes on public transport resulting in an unreasonably long journey time. Best practice suggests that the maximum each way length of journey for a child of primary school age to be 45 minutes and for secondary school age 75 minutes, but these should be regarded as the maximum. For children with SEN and/or disabilities, journeys may be more complex and a shorter journey time, although desirable, may not always be possible.

Please note only the last line relates to SEN children and therefore, there is no strict figure quoted as it is understood that to do so is not practicably possible, especially where children attend specialist schools which are much further apart.