



Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School

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Headteacher: Mr C Billings

Thursday 7 December 2023

Dear families

We have received information from the Local Authority regarding the bus services that currently operate to service the school. The official correspondence is below:

Coventry City Council has started its process of setting the budget for 2024/25 but faces difficult choices ahead with a £12m funding shortfall this financial year, which is set to rise to around £30m next year. A report is set to go to Cabinet on 12 December for permission to start consultation on potential savings. The consultation will run until 7th February 2024 before elected members agree the final Budget at the end of that month.

As part of these proposals the Council is proposing to remove funding subsidising the following school bus routes:

- The Number 50 Bus
- The Number 60 Bus (expanded capacity to be removed)
- The Number 48 Bus
- The Number 40 Bus
- The Number 49 Bus

If the proposal is agreed then these services will not continue after July 24. You can access more information and respond to the budget consultation at <https://letstalk.coventry.gov.uk/> from 13 December.

Coventry City Council will continue to provide bus passes for children entitled to statutory support for home to school transport to enable them to utilise the public transport network in line with the following policy and guidance: <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/schools-schooling/school-travel-passes/2>

This news means that from September 2024 Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School will no longer have any dedicated bus travel. All public transport to and from school will need to be on public bus routes. I recognise that this will have a significant impact on families planning safe travel to and from school for their children. I would therefore strongly recommend parents respond to the consultation to ensure our school position is heard. The removal of these bus routes will place over 300 extra students into an already stretched and unreliable public transport system.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school or your local representatives.

Yours sincerely

C Billings
Headteacher



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