

Travelling to Suffolk Rural - Transport Guide 2024/25

Travelling by public bus to Suffolk Rural

Routes 118, 119 and 914

Current timetables for both the 118 and 119 can be found via this link:

<https://www.ipswichbuses.co.uk/timetables/ipswich/118/>

Current timetable for the 914 can be found via this link:

<https://www.ipswichbuses.co.uk/timetables/schools/914/>

You can apply to Suffolk County Council for a discretionary travel pass (16-18 years only).

For more information and online applications, refer to the Suffolk On Board website

<https://www.suffolkonboard.com/> or email passenger.transport@suffolk.gov.uk or call on 0345 606 6171.

Ipswich Buses accept contactless payments and have a wide range of season tickets available as M-Tickets on their Ipswich Buses App, where customers can also track their bus, plan their journey or gift a ticket to their children. Suffolk County Council's Endeavour Cards will also be valid along with exact cash fares.

For 16–19 year olds "Endeavour Cards" are accepted on pay-daily fares, offering at least 25% discount off full price adult fares on participating services

<https://endeavour.suffolkonboard.com/16-19-card/>

First Bus (Ipswich Reds):

Travelling into central Ipswich by bus from the surrounding areas

If you are travelling into central Ipswich by public bus from surrounding areas, for example from places such as Felixstowe, Stowmarket or Woodbridge (just as an example), you will need to purchase a First Bus (Ipswich Reds) travel pass.

If you apply for a First Bus travel pass through the College, we will take care of all the administration for you. You are also able to make application directly yourself to First Bus and you may find the cost is cheaper if you do, but it might also cost more depending on where you are travelling from.

*** Should you decide to apply directly to First Bus, the College would be unable to help you resolve any issues you may encounter in the process. ***

The cost of a First Bus travel pass is £250 if you purchase it through the College.

If you wish to purchase your First Bus travel pass through the College, you must complete the College's transport application form <https://www.suffolk.ac.uk/transport-form>

*** If you do not wish to purchase it through the College but purchase instead through First Bus (Ipswich Reds), please do not complete our application form. ***

The Ipswich Reds Network Map can be found via this link, showing which route you need <https://www.firstbus.co.uk/norfolk-suffolk/routes-and-maps/network-maps>

Current timetables into central Ipswich from surrounding areas can be found via this link <https://www.firstbus.co.uk/norfolk-suffolk/routes-and-maps/ipswich-reds-frequent-links-suffolks-county-town>

However you decide to apply for it (through us or direct to First Bus), you can use your travel pass for travel between your home area and Ipswich on any day, at any time (including weekends and half-terms) – at no extra cost!

Your travel pass will be issued by First Bus Ipswich Reds, via their App. BUT, if you are applying through the College, please do not download the App until you have received instructions from us on what to do next, after you have made your application.

When your bus arrives into Ipswich central, you will be able to board our complimentary college shuttle bus for the last part of your journey to Suffolk Rural. Please refer to our shuttle bus guide for further details and timetable <https://www.suffolk.ac.uk/college-life/travel-to-college/travel-to-suffolk-rural/#freebus>

If you are not sure which route you need, please get in touch with our Student Support team via their email support@suffolk.ac.uk or by calling 01473 382738.

When should I apply for my First Bus (Ipswich Reds) college travel pass?

You should apply for your First Bus (Ipswich Reds) college travel pass as soon as possible from this point, using the College's Rural Transport application form <https://www.suffolk.ac.uk/transport-form> to indicate how you wish to travel. *** Remembering though, if you are applying direct to First Bus (Ipswich Reds), please do not complete the transport application form ***

If I apply direct to First Bus for term 1, can I change my mind and apply through the College for term 2 and 3?

Yes you can!

What about paying for my First Bus (Ipswich Reds) college travel pass?

You are encouraged to purchase your college travel pass as soon as possible from this point as you cannot be issued with a travel pass without payment first being made.

You must have a valid travel pass when travelling. You would be breaking the law on public transport if you were to travel without a valid pass and would risk getting fined.

'EVOLVE' is the College's online shop, accessed at www.suffolk.ac.uk/shop. First Bus (Ipswich Reds) travel passes can be purchased termly at a cost of £250 per term. There is no option to purchase an annual pass.

Although we will reimburse you if you are eligible on assessment of your application for support through the bursary, should you leave the College early no refund will be given as the College purchases the travel passes on your behalf.

Please use the following URL to take you to 'EVOLVE'. This link will take you directly to the area where you will make your payment

<https://www.suffolk.ac.uk/firstpayments>

Is there any financial support available?

The College offers a number of different bursary schemes to students who meet the eligibility criteria. You must apply online to be considered for a bursary. For more details of the College's bursary scheme, access www.suffolk.ac.uk/bursary

If you are making application for the bursary, please note that a travel pass will not be issued until we have fully assessed your bursary application. Therefore, you might wish to think about timings and consider whether you do need to purchase a travel pass in the first instance.

No reimbursement will be made by the College for tickets purchased individually.

End of 'public bus travel' information guide.