

Travelling to Suffolk Rural - Transport Guide 2024/25

Travelling by train to Suffolk Rural

Greater Anglia:

Travelling into central Ipswich by train from the surrounding areas

If you are travelling into central Ipswich by train from surrounding areas, for example from places such as Bury St Edmunds, Clacton, Harwich or Stowmarket, you will need to purchase a Greater Anglia academic travel pass.

If you apply for a Greater Anglia 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 Greater Anglia 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 Greater Anglia, the College would be unable to help you resolve any issues you may encounter in the process. ***

The cost of a Greater Anglia academic travel pass is £250 (for travel within “zone 1”) or £280 (for travel within “zone 2”) if you purchase it through the College. *** The terms “zone 1” and “zone 2” is language used by the College to differentiate the two price brackets and should not be confused with any similar language used by railway service providers **.*

Zone 1

Areas in this zone are more local, including for example: Stowmarket, Needham Market, Manningtree and Woodbridge.

Zone 2

Areas in this zone are further afield, including for example: Bury St Edmunds, Clacton, Colchester and Harwich (and beyond).

We have included a map at the end of this guide to help explain the zones.

If you wish to purchase your Greater Anglia academic 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 Greater Anglia, please do not complete our application form. ***

However you decide to apply for it (through us or direct to Greater Anglia), you can use your academic 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!

For timetables please refer online to Greater Anglia for full details
<https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/travel-information/timetables>

When your train arrives into Ipswich railway station, you will be able to board our complimentary college shuttle bus for the last part of your journey to Suffolk Rural. This is the SB1 (shuttle bus 1).

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 your train journey ends at Colchester North Station, you will need to board the RC8 at Colchester North Station.

This travels direct to Ipswich railway station, where it then becomes the SB1 for onward travel to Suffolk Rural (you stay on the vehicle). Please refer our dedicated routes guide for further details and RC8 timetable:

<https://www.suffolk.ac.uk/college-life/travel-to-college/travel-to-suffolk-rural/#dedicated>

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 Greater Anglia academic travel pass?

You should apply for your Greater Anglia academic 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 Greater Anglia, please do not complete the transport application form ***

If I apply direct to Greater Anglia 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 Greater Anglia academic travel pass?

You are encouraged to purchase your 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 Greater Anglia academic travel passes can be purchased termly:

- "Zone 1" - £250 per term
- "Zone 2" - £280 per term.

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

Train Zone 1 –

https://evolve.edufocus.co.uk/shop/shop_item_public.asp?site=suffolknewcollegevisits&estab=0&id=3363

Train Zone 2 -

https://evolve.edufocus.co.uk/shop/shop_item_public.asp?site=suffolknewcollegevisits&estab=0&id=3364

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.

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.

Map to show zone 1 and zone 2 areas:



End of 'train travel' information guide.