



Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School

Travelling to school 2025



A guide for families and students.

The story so far...

Our school has a rich history dating back to 1953, when it was established to serve the Catholic children of the local parishes of St Thomas More and St John Vianney. Over the years, Bishop Ullathorne has grown to become a destination school for students across the city of Coventry and beyond.

This growth has necessitated the need for dedicated bus transport, which was previously provided by DeCourcey bus company as part of their wider service for the city. However, during the pandemic, DeCourcey was no longer able to continue trading, and the bus service came to an end.

Coventry City Council then stepped in to take on the bus services to Bishop Ullathorne, providing a subsidised and reduced service from 2020 to 2024. Sadly, the current economic climate has meant that the Council is no longer able to subsidise these bus services, and as of September 2024, there will be no dedicated bus services running to our school.

However, I want to assure you that we have been working tirelessly with Coventry City Council, National Express, and Travel for West Midlands to find alternative solutions.

I am pleased to inform you that there are three 9S buses that run from Hayes Street in the city centre and bring students straight to our school, with a return service at the end of the day. Additionally, a new crossing has been installed on the Kenilworth Road, and a reduced speed limit has been implemented to enhance the safety of our students.

These changes are the result of a strong partnership and collaborative working between the various stakeholders involved. We have also put together a comprehensive leaflet that provides detailed information on the different ways your child can safely come to school from September 2024. I encourage you to review this leaflet and reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our students, and we will continue to work closely with the local authorities and transportation providers to explore additional solutions that may arise. I look forward to working together with you to ensure a smooth and safe transition for our students.

Thank you
Mrs S Boyle
Headteacher

Travelling to school by... Bus



Although dedicated bus routes have ended, there are still public bus routes that will serve the local area of Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School. Some of these routes may include a transfer at Pool Meadow bus station.

Number 9	University Hospital via Wyken / Ball Hill / Pool Meadow / Rail Station. These buses run approximately every twenty minutes but can be very busy.
Number 9s	Hayes Street 07.40am 08.00am and the 08.15am
Number 12x	AM: Pool Meadow / The Quadrant / Rail Station / Kenilworth Road (then walk to school) PM: Kenilworth Road / Rail Station / Quadrant / Pool Meadow Buses are approximately every 10 minutes.
Number 60 (StageCoach)	AM: Coventry Arena Tesco / University Hospital / Warwickshire Shopping Park / Willenhall / Whitley / Kenpas Highway - Burnt Post are around one every hour. PM: Burnt Post – Kenpas Highway / Whitley / Willenhall / Warwickshire Shopping Park / Coventry University Hospital.
Number X17 (park and ride/stride)	Coventry Transport Museum / Rail Station / Memorial Park. Walk and stride to school through the park—every 30 minutes or Kenilworth Road walk to school
Number 87	AM: Westwood Heath Road / Gibbet Hill Road / Westwood Campus (Warwick University) / Cannon Park / Sir Henry Parkes Road / Fletchamstead Highway / Kenilworth Road walk to school - 1 bus an hour PM: Kenilworth Road / Cannon Park / Westwood Campus / Westwood Heath Road return bus approximately 4.00pm

You can also use the following link to plan bus journeys within Coventry

<https://nxbus.co.uk/coventry/journey-planning>

Travelling to school by... Bus continued...



Bus Passes

Travel Coventry

1 Week Pass £9.00: 4 week pass £32.00: 1 Term Pass £105.00 or Monthly Direct Debit £30.

<https://nxbus.co.uk/coventry/tickets-prices/under-18-term-plus>

Stagecoach

Contact Stagecoach via their website. The 2023/24 price was £140 per term.

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/midlands/warwick-and-learnington-unibus>

Transport for West Midlands – N Bus Pass (All operators in Coventry)

Monthly Direct Debit £30.00

<https://ticketsearch.tfwm.org.uk>

Low income passes

These are only available through Coventry City Council at the following address

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/schools-schooling/school-travel-passes/>

The school no longer offers free bus passes to students.



Travelling to school by... Bike



Many of our students choose to travel to school by bike.

In recent months there has been a significant increase in cycle lanes installed across the City.

These include:

- Binley Road into the City Centre
- Whitley into Cheylesmore

Students who currently cycle these routes state that it takes on average 20 to 30 minutes.

Information on cycling to and from school can be found on the Coventry City Council website <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/cycling-1>

This has links to other sites with suggested safe routes. There is a cycle route down the side of the Kenilworth Road and you can cycle through the park.



Bicycles can be stored securely on school site. The bicycle area is locked at 8.35am and unlocked at 3.05pm.

It is advised that students chain or lock their bicycles to the wall mounts provided.

Travelling to school by... Car



Bishop Ullathorne is serviced by four roads that lead directly off the A45.

These are Woodside Avenue South, Wainbody Avenue South, Moat Avenue and Beanfield Avenue.

From September 2024, parents will be able to use the turning circle on school site to drop off and collect their children. The turning circle is accessed via **Gate 2** (off Wainbody Avenue South).

Any families who wish to use the turning circle to pick up or drop off their child will require a **turning circle pass**. This can be obtained by contacting the school on: bu-transport@hccmac.co.uk (from 01/09/24)

Parents/ carers will need to display the turning circle pass in their windscreens to access the turning circle. Please ensure the turning circle is used for quick drop offs and pick ups only. Please be aware that parents/ carers will be expected to move quickly through the turning circle to avoid congestion.

Families will still be able to drop off outside the school gates between 8am and 8.20am and pick up between 3.05pm to 3.20pm. However, please be aware that the school is surrounded by a large residential area.

Please do not block our neighbours drives, or park in a way that blocks access or impedes a clear view of traffic.

Families may find it easier to consider carpooling.

Travelling to school by... Foot



Many of our students choose to walk to school.

If a student lives within a 2 mile radius of the school, then this can take up to 30 minutes.

It is always recommended that students walk in pairs and stick to public footpaths and walkways.

When crossing the A45, students should use the underpass or one of the pedestrian crossings.

Park and Stride **NEW**

The War Memorial Park is a short (10 minutes approximately) walk from Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School. The War Memorial 'park and ride' car park offers free parking for dropping off and collecting students.

The car park is served by the X17 service operated by StageCoach. Students can use an nBus pass to access this service and do not need to buy a specific 'park and ride ticket'.

The first three hours of parking at the War Memorial Park are also still free. This allows for easy pick up and drop off from the War Memorial Park for any parents/ carers wishing to avoid the busier streets outside the school gates.

The X17 bus route travels directly into the City Centre.



Tips for safe travel to and from school



- When walking it is always safer to travel in pairs or small groups
- When cycling, students should wear bicycle helmets
- All foot or bicycle travellers should wear high visibility stripes on coats/ jackets
- When walking or cycling, students should use pelican and pedestrian crossings at all times
- Always make sure mobile phones are charged
- Students should follow the green cross at all times <https://www.roadwise.co.uk/schools/using-the-road/green-cross-code/>
- Students should remember that whenever they are in school uniform, they are an ambassador for the school
- No electronic scooters are allowed on school site
- Students should be advised to always head directly home and not loiter in public areas or parks.

Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School

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