

16-17 Railcard

The Department for Transport will be launching a new railcard - extending the 50% child fare discount to 16 & 17 year olds - towards the end of August 2019. Please see the links below for more information.

<https://www.southwesternrailway.com/train-tickets/railcards-and-discounts/sixteen-seventeen-railcard>
<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/news/2019/01/new-railcard-to-extend-child-fares-to-16-and-17-year-olds/>

The Rail Delivery Group¹ recently advised that the 16-17 rail card will cost £30 per year², will have no minimum fare (unlike the 16-25 railcard) and will be valid on both season passes and single/return fares. Additional information is limited at this time so we recommend learners check social media and the SWR link above periodically for updates.

Scholar's Rail Passes

Brockenhurst College offers scholars' rail passes (SRP) to learners - irrespective of age - through an arrangement with South Western Railway (SWR). SRP are discounted³ season passes and learners have the option of paying in instalments⁴ at no extra cost when purchasing via the College's online BrockShop (NB: 16-17 railcards cannot be used to further discount SRP).

SRP are produced externally and can take 10+ working days to arrive at Brockenhurst. Passes for the autumn term are typically collected during enrolment - we recommend payment be made no later than 05/08/2019 to ensure delivery. If you order a SRP through the College and subsequently decide to purchase tickets externally/source alternative transport you can request a refund in full less admin⁵ providing the SRP has not been collected⁶.

SRP have historically been available for purchase on a termly or full academic year⁷ basis only and whilst the introduction of the new 16-17 railcard affords potential reductions in travel costs, learners will only be eligible for the 50% discount up until their 18th birthday. Brockenhurst and SWR will therefore be trialling an additional tier of discounted, half-termly SRP for the 2019/20 academic year.

This new tier of SRP will permit learners who turn 18 during the academic year to use a 16-17 railcard for discounted travel until their birthday and then purchase a discounted pass from Brockenhurst for the second half of any term (e.g. a SRP valid 04/11/19 - 18/12/19 and issued to a learner turning 18 during the autumn term) and all subsequent terms.

SRP are available for travel to Brockenhurst from all stations across the SWR network however passes from select stations⁸ only are initially published. Please email travel@brock.ac.uk if you cannot find your station on the BrockShop.

Students Eligible for the Discretionary Bursary (DB)

The DB fund will cover 50% of the cost of a SRP purchased through the College. Please note however that SRP are only available at a fixed price (reflecting validity 7 days a week) and for learners on a reduced timetable (e.g. studying 2 days per week or on work placement every other week) it may prove beneficial to forgo the 50% DB discount, obtain a 16-17 railcard and purchase tickets externally.

The DB fund is not able to contribute towards the cost of tickets purchased externally however will refund the cost of the 16-17 railcard providing no pass is purchased through the College for the same period.

¹ <https://www.raildeliverygroup.com/>

² Or until the purchaser's 18th birthday - whichever comes sooner

³ 16-17 railcard discount is greater (new railcard discounts to child fare vs full adult fare on which scholars' passes are based)

⁴ 3x equal instalments for full term products / 9x equal instalments for full year products

⁵ Admin fee TBC - currently £20 (£10 SWR admin and £10 Brockenhurst admin fees apply)

⁶ Collected SRP can be returned for a pro rata refund plus admin however the refund calculation will take SWR c. 6-8 weeks

⁷ 3 termly (autumn, winter & summer) passes will be issued to purchasers of the full academic year product

⁸ Ashurst New Forest, Bournemouth, Branksome, Christchurch, Hamworthy, Hinton Admiral, Holton Heath, Lymington Pier/Town, New Milton, Parkstone, Pokesdown, Poole, Southampton Central, Sway, Totton & Wareham