

Fares Revision: Routes 331 & 358

Most single fares on routes 331 & 358 will be revised upwards in January 2019. The reasons and details are set out below.

For a number of years fares on routes 331 & 358 have been held relatively low to support the School. We are very pleased that the School is deservedly more popular again after all the hard work that has been done. But this has caused a number of issues. In particular it has created some overcrowding on our buses particularly on the afternoon journeys where more children pay cash fares. This has resulted in many complaints from parents about overcrowding and late buses. As a result we intend to bring pay-on-the-day fares more closely into line with those charged by other operators and to simplify them to speed bus boarding.

From 1st January single fares will be revised as follows:-

| From | Current single | New single fare from 1/1/19* | Weekly tickets (Monday mornings only) | Spring half terms | Spring full term |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Welwyn Garden City | £2.20 | £2.50 | £19 | £109 | £198 |
| Borehamwood | £2.20 | £2.50 | £19 | £109 | £198 |
| Shenley | £2.00 | £2.50 | £17 | £95 | £177 |
| London Colney | £1.60 | £2.00 | £14 | £78 | £141 |

*Failure to produce a Herts Savercard when boarding the bus will result in adult single fares being charged. These are twice the price of the single fares shown.

There are no fare changes from Hatfield or on route 303. Neither is there any change to season ticket prices so no-one need pay any extra if they purchase a season ticket. Indeed considerable savings can be made. Our season tickets remain amongst the lowest in Hertfordshire. This will help us get a better handle on passenger numbers, but in the event of future overcrowding, we will consider giving priority to season ticket holders.

We will be meeting with the School in the spring to discuss the service structure from September 2019. This will provide us with the opportunity to assess the current service and what modifications we can make to increase bus capacity as more pupils join the School. We have managed to provide an additional bus on the 331 this year but to do so requires extra resources and a doubling of our costs. With current economic uncertainty it is now much more difficult to recruit and as a result we are increasing our school bus drivers' pay from January to help ensure we have sufficient drivers to meet the School's needs from September. These extra costs are an additional reason for the need to increase single fares now.

We appreciate your ongoing support for our services. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2019.

**Sullivan Buses
December 2018**