

Dear Haslemere Herald,

In October 2013 I discovered that the SCC Student Fare Card only extended north of Haslemere towards London, going as far as Clapham Junction. As many of the children in Haslemere travel south to schools in Liphook and Petersfield I thought this was unfair, as children over 16 have to pay full peak rate fare to travel to school. With the Student Fare Card reduced fares are available the details are :-

### **Our train student fare card**

This allows 16-18 year old Surrey students in full-time education to buy a season ticket to travel home to school/college journeys only at a discounted cost of one-third the full adult rate. Season tickets are available for 7 days (minimum), one month and between one month and one year. The card costs £25 and runs from the date of issue until the end of August the following year (eg; 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015). It is only valid for home to school/college journeys that start and/or end at one of the 83 stations within Surrey, listed in bold on our qualifying stations list. If you also need to travel by bus to complete your journey you can also apply for our bus student fare card.

I started by writing to my MP who advised me that it was an issue for Surrey County Council and SW Trains not a constituency matter. So I contacted SW Trains and SCC. 18 months later and many letters to and fro the Travel card has been renegotiated to cover stations south of Haslemere. This process was also greatly helped by the independent councillor Nikki Barton championing the issue with the local transport committee. I cannot thank her enough for all her hard work and support.

I just wanted all parents to know that as of September 2015 the Surrey County Council Student Fare Card will cover Liphook, Liss and Petersfield stations.

Kind regards

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