

## Driving to school

If walking or cycling aren't possible, there are several ways of getting to school by road:

- public transport
- school buses
- car-sharing
- family car

Driving your child to school with empty seats in your car is the least environmentally-friendly way to get them to school. However, it's still the way many kids get to school, especially while they're at primary. If this is your situation, it's worth taking some time to see if you could organise it any other way, at least on some days.

Your child may be eligible for **free school transport**. Your child will qualify automatically if they are aged between five and 16 and attend the nearest suitable school, and the school is further away than the 'statutory walking distance' (two miles away for children aged seven and under; three miles away for those aged eight and over).

Help may still be available for children who don't qualify automatically, for example, if they are from low-income families or if they have special educational needs or disabilities. To find out more, it's best to check with your local authority. The website [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk) is also very informative.