



The Turrets

ST MARY'S

transport

2026-27



St Mary's
Colchester

Welcome to St Mary's transport

The St Mary's transport service is designed to assist busy families by offering a safe and reliable method of conveying St Mary's pupils to and from school.

ST MARY'S BUSES

- are driven by St Mary's school employees
- are only for St Mary's pupils
- collect and drop off pupils at a safe designated location
- take pupils right to the door at school

The information in this leaflet forms part of the St Mary's Bus contract, along with the School Bus Request Form and Terms and Conditions.

THE SERVICE

We operate a dedicated service to and from the Senior School with a shuttle run to the Lower School for pupils in Years 4-6, using our own vehicles and drivers. It is only for the use of St Mary's School pupils. Any changes to the service, such as the use of outside contractors, will only be considered if we are confident that the level and quality of service can be maintained. We will only hire in vehicles in the event of vehicle breakdown or similar unforeseen circumstance.

TRANSPORT APP

St Mary's has partnered with Vectare, a specialist school transport management company. Through the Vectare transport website, parents can:

- Use an interactive journey planner by entering their postcode to find the nearest bus stop.
- View an overview of the school bus network, including timetables and route details.
- Notify drivers if their daughter will not be travelling (e.g. due to illness) via the website or the VecTive Passenger app.
- Track the bus journey in real-time via the VecTive Passenger app, helping to estimate pick-up times, especially during traffic delays
- Receive notifications if the bus is running late.

THE DRIVERS

We employ our own drivers, who wear a school photo identification badge and are recognisable as St Mary's staff. They are fully vetted in accordance with the School's safer recruitment procedures and have received the appropriate training to ensure their competency. They have also undergone Appointed Persons First Aid training.

Drivers hold the contact details supplied by parents as part of the application and therefore it is very important that parents inform the School Office immediately if any of the details change.

Drivers have mobile phones on board to be used only in emergency situations and are therefore not in a position to respond to any calls.

ABSENCE

If your daughter is scheduled to use the service for a particular trip but cannot do so, for example for sickness or other reasons, please notify the School directly as you would normally for any absence. In order to ensure the smooth running of the service, the driver cannot wait for late arrivals to the collection point and as mentioned previously, will not be able to respond to your calls. Therefore if your daughter is not at the designated collection point by the stated time, the driver will assume that she is not coming and will continue with the journey. When back at School, the driver and the School Office will liaise regarding any non-attendance and if the absence has not been reported, the School will follow this up in the usual manner. If the bus is running early, the driver will wait until the designated time before moving on. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that their daughter reaches the bus collection point safely, and gets home from the bus drop off point safely.

BEHAVIOUR

Parents are asked to treat the drivers courteously and to remind their daughters that the School's Behaviour Policy applies to this service, as it does at School. Drivers are referred to as 'Mr', 'Mrs', etc, and report any unruly behaviour to the School's management. Pupils should act responsibly and wear seat belts on the bus at all times. They should inform the driver of any issue of concern or ill health among the passengers.

TO RESERVE A SEAT ON A ST MARY'S BUS

The routes in this booklet reflect our current provision and are reviewed annually in line with demand. The timings are initial estimates as a guide. If you would like to reserve a seat for your daughter on one of the St Mary's bus services for the following academic year, please complete the online School Bus Request Form. Once we have assessed demand, we will review and finalise routes, stops and timings. You will then receive a booking form to complete to secure your place.

The School Bus Fees are invoiced termly as a supplemental charge on the School Fees invoice. 12 weeks' notice is required to cancel or change your daughter's reservation. Seats must be booked in advance - ad hoc journeys may not be made unless under exceptional circumstances and with prior approval. For further information, please message Transport via the St Mary's app or email transport@stmaryscolchester.org.uk

St Mary's transport routes

Each route has specified collection and dropping-off points, with timings as shown in this booklet. If any changes become necessary due to circumstances, such as significant road works or adverse weather conditions, we shall inform parents as soon as possible, using the contact details you have provided in the application process. Please remember that because weather and road conditions can change between areas, we will use our best judgement before starting or cancelling a journey. All routes are reviewed each year and are set depending on demand.

To enquire about the routes or to request additional stops, please message Transport via the St Mary's app or email transport@stmaryscolchester.org.uk

ROUTE 1: MERSEA

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
A	Goldhanger - Maldon Rd	7.25	5.15	4.30
B	Tolleshunt D'Arcy - Queens Head	7.32	5.06	4.23
C	Wigborough - Tails School of Grooming, School Lane	7.42	5.00	4.16
D	West Mersea - Elmwood Drive	7.55	4.48	4.06
E	Layer De La Haye - Malting Green triangle	8.10	N/A	N/A
E	Layer De La Haye - High Rd	8.13	N/A	N/A
E	Layer De La Haye - Abberton Rd	N/A	4.34	3.52
E	Layer De La Haye - High Rd	N/A	4.32	3.50
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 2: GREAT LEIGHS

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
B	Great Leighs - Church Lane Car Park	7.25	5.00	4.15
D	Coggeshall - Chapel Inn, Market Hill bus stop	7.55	4.40	3.55
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 3: FELSTED

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
B	Felsted Primary School	7.20	5.25	4.35
C	Rayne - The Cock Inn bus stop	7.27	5.15	4.25
C	Braintree - Clare Rd	7.35	5.05	4.15
C	Braintree - Bradford St bus stop	7.40	4.55	4.05
C	Bradwell - Efesus Kitchen restaurant bus stop	7.48	4.45	4.00
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 4: DANBURY

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
A	Danbury - Bicknacre Road, The Common bus stop	7.20	5.10	4.25
A	Danbury - Bicknacre Road, White Swan bus stop	7.22	5.08	4.23
A	Danbury - Claremont Garden Centre bus stop	7.27	5.03	4.18
B	Maldon - Wycke Hill Business Park, opp F1 garage	7.32	4.58	4.13
B	Heybridge Basin - Asda bus stop	7.40	4.50	4.05
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 5: WICKHAM BISHOPS

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
B	Maldon - Blackwater Retail Park	7.20	5.20	4.35
C	Broad Street Green bus stop	7.25	5.15	4.30
C	Captains Wood Road bus stop	7.27	5.13	4.28
C	Wickham Bishops - Kelvedon Road bus stop near War Memorial	7.30	5.10	4.25
C	Wickham Bishops - Snows Corner	7.32	5.08	4.23
C	Great Totham - triangle by Florist on the Green	7.37	5.04	4.19
C	Tiptree - Maldon Road	7.41	5.00	4.15
C	Tiptree - The New Times restaurant	7.46	4.56	4.11
C	Layer Marney - Smythes Green, first layby	7.55	4.48	4.03
C	Layer Marney - Smythes Green, second layby	7.56	4.49	4.02
C	Layer Marney - Roundbush Road	7.59	4.45	4.00
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 6: CHELMSFORD

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
A	Chelmsford - Skinners Lane shop car park	7.10	5.32	4.42
A	Chelmsford - Wood St, Hylands Parade bus stop	7.15	5.28	4.38
A	Chelmsford - New London Rd, Queen St bus stop	7.20	5.20	4.30
A	Chelmsford - The Ship bus stop	N/A	N/A	4.59
A	Chelmsford - Beaulieu Park, Armistice Ave	7.32	4.55	4.10
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 7: WITHAM

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
B	Hatfield Peverel – The Street, Estate Agent	7.35	5.00	4.15
B	Witham - Gershwin Blvd near Owers Rd, opp Saxon Arms	7.40	4.56	4.11
B	Witham - Saul's Avenue, Maldon Road bus stop	7.45	4.52	4.07
B	Witham - High St, George pub bus stop	7.50	4.48	4.03
C	Kelvedon - Kelvedon Spice restaurant, The Institute bus stop	8.00	N/A	N/A
C	Kelvedon - High St, 144 bus stop, near fish & chip shop	N/A	4.38	3.53
C	Feering - Feering Hill bus stop	8.05	4.35	3.50
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 8: NORTH COLCHESTER

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
C	Colchester - Elm Tree Lane bus stop	7.30	5.05	4.20
F	Boxted - Church St	7.40	4.55	4.10
F	Great Horkesley - Woodhouse Lane, stop 1	7.50	4.45	4.00
F	Great Horkesley - Woodhouse Lane, stop 2	7.51	4.46	4.01
F	West Bergholt - Colchester Rd	7.56	4.40	3.55
F	West Bergholt - White House Lane	8.00	4.35	3.50
F	Colchester - Chitts Hill	8.04	4.30	3.45
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 9: FRINTON

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
A	Frinton - layby outside railway gates	7.00	5.40	4.50
F	Wivenhoe - bus stop opposite Co-op	7.40	5.00	4.10
F	Colchester - St Christopher Road, St John's Estate shops bus stop	8.00	N/A	N/A
F	Colchester - Ipswich Road, Milton Lodge	N/A	4.45	3.55
	St Mary's Senior School	8.25	4.20	3.35

ROUTE 10: IPSWICH

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
E	Dedham - Crown St, Kiln Cottages bus stop	7.30	4.58	4.09
E	Dedham - Birchwood Farm Shop	7.36	N/A	N/A
E	Dedham - top of Perry Lane	N/A	4.50	4.01
F	Ardleigh - The Lion	7.42	5.04	4.15
F	Colchester - Beaumont Close	8.00	4.35	3.47
	St Mary's Senior School	8.20	4.20	3.35

BUS TO COLCHESTER NORTH TRAIN STATION

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
CNS	St Mary's Senior School	N/A	3.35	N/A
	Colchester North Train Station	N/A	3.45	N/A

LOWER SCHOOL BUS FOR PUPILS IN YEARS 4-6

Zone	Stop	am	Mon-Thu	Fri pm
LSDO	St Mary's Senior School	8.21	N/A	N/A
	St Mary's Lower School	8.30	N/A	N/A

We review routes and stops on an annual basis and are happy to consider requests for new stops or routes from prospective and existing parents. If you would like to discuss this, or if you have any questions about the service, please message Transport via the St Mary's app or email transport@stmaryscolchester.org.uk

Bus rates per term

Zone	Termly fee
A	£895
B	£825
C	£795
D	£730
E	£665
F	£470
CNS	£4 per journey
LSDO	£240

Termly rates are based on three 12 week terms. A 30% study leave discount will be applied for pupils in Year 11 for the summer term. Please note there are no refunds for unused journeys.

Prices correct at the time of publication. The school reserves the right to revise pricing. Please see our Bus Service Terms and Conditions, which are available on request.