



12 August 2020

To all Parents/Carers in the Chudleigh, Chudleigh Knighton and Totnes Catchment Areas

Dear Parents/Carers

The College has just received official notification from Devon County Council School Transport Co-ordination Service that Country Bus is withdrawing the 39C and 913 services from Chudleigh and Totnes to South Dartmoor. We wanted to inform parents as early as possible as this has the potential to cause significant disruption to a number of our families.

The College has been in communication with Devon County to try and resolve all potential bus issues that have arisen due to the impact of COVID-19, but unfortunately Country Bus has deemed the above services not financially viable for September and has chosen to redirect their resources. We are extremely disappointed with this decision, not least due to its timing, and we have voiced our concerns to the local authority.

The decision to cancel the service has been made in consultation with the Traffic Commissioner, which has allowed Country Bus to formally withdraw this service. The College had no input or influence over the consultation process. Unfortunately, Devon County has been unable to find another operator who is willing to run the routes. We are looking into alternative transport options but are unable to guarantee a solution for September. Therefore, in the meantime it would be prudent for you to think about alternative arrangements for transporting your child to College in the short term, whilst we try to resolve this difficult situation.

We are very aware that this decision will affect a number of our students and will create additional pressure and anxiety for many parents during this already difficult time. However, we will communicate directly with the families involved before the start of the academic year to identify any potential alternative arrangements.

Best wishes

Dan Vile
Assistant Head Teacher