Accident transport fund
(also known as the ‘College taxi scheme’)

Fitzwilliam students pay an annual premium of £10.00 per year to an in-house insurance scheme that covers the cost of necessary taxi journeys.

The College has an arrangement with Panther Taxis whereby the company’s drivers will accept, in lieu of payment, a taxi slip authorised by the College.

Taxi slips

Taxi slips must be signed by the Duty Porter, Tutorial Administrator, or the College Nurse. Each slip has to be signed in advance of the taxi journey. The blue copy of the signed slip must be returned to the Porters Lodge after use; failure to do this will result in the payment not being authorised and the charge for the taxi journey will be added to your College account.

Uses of the fund

The primary use of the scheme is in situations when injury or serious illness prevents independent travel between Fitzwilliam College and Departments of the University.

Another legitimate use of taxis is in the event that a student feels that returning late at night poses a genuine safety or security risk, or in the event of an emergency. The scheme will also cover the costs of a student being sent back to the College from hospital.

Obviously it is difficult to know about many of these circumstances in advance – in which cases you can obtain an emergency slip from the Porters at the end of the journey, or pay a taxi fare in cash, obtain a receipt from the taxi driver, and request later reimbursement via your College account or in cash from the Accounts office. It may be necessary to obtain approval from your Tutor. The College staff member issuing the slip (or providing the refund) will always require details of the reason for the journey.

This Fund is supported by students and it is important that it is not abused. In the case of security risks and emergencies, Tutors will wish to judge whether the journey was necessary, and the extent to which the need for transport could have been foreseen.

Panther Taxis Ltd is one of the largest taxi companies in the Cambridge area. Their telephone number is 01223 715 715.