

Planning more complex journeys

Planning a journey using timetables can be a challenge for most people. If you have to connect with another bus or train, for example, you will have to be careful to get there in plenty of time. Public transport may be delayed or get stuck in traffic. You have to bear this in mind when doing your planning.

Let's look at an example: I live in Blackmore, near the hospital. I want to catch the coach to London from Donnerton Bus Station on Saturday. My friend, who lives in Brimingham, wants to get on the same coach as me. Here are the timetables I will need to look at:

This is the timetable for Blackmore to Donnerton:

SERVICE	28	22	22A	28	22	22A	22	22B
CODE			NS			NS		
Blackmore School								1510
SCH								
BLACKMORE, opp Hospital	0815	0915	1015	1115	1215	1315	1415	1515
Blackmore, Market Place	0820	0920	1020	--	1220	1320	--	1520
GRINSLEY, Church Lane	0840	0940	1040	1135	1240	1340	1435	1540
Grinsley, Kings Head	0845	0945	1045	1140	1245	1345	1440	1545
Boxley, opp Bus Shelter	0900	1000	1100	1155	1300	1400	1455	1600
Crosthams, Church St	0915	1015	1115	1210	1315	1415	1510	1615
Donnerton, Bus Station	0940	1040	1140	1235	1340	1440	1535	1640

CODE: SCH - only on school days NS - not on Saturdays

And this is the timetable for coaches from Donnerton to London:

The London Flyer						
Donnerton, Bus Station	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500
Brimingham, Market Place	1218	----	1418	----	1618	----
London, Victoria Coach Station	1433	1517	1633	1717	1833	1917

I could get on the 08.15 from Blackmore and then catch the 10.00 'London Flyer' to London. My friend could get on as well.

If I took the 09.15 from Blackmore I could catch the 11.00 to London, but it would not pick up my friend because that coach doesn't stop at Brimingham. The dashes in the timetable tell you this.

See if you can work out any other combinations and check them with your tutor.