

Passengerplus+ Legal Obligations

WHAT ARE THE LEGAL OBLIGATIONS APPLICABLE TO SCHOOLS WHEN MAKING TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCHOOL TRIPS AND VISITS ABROAD?

Obtaining three quotes from a transport company and choosing the cheapest is definitely not demonstrating the correct culture and attitude to the safety of pupils in a school's care. The law requires a school to provide a 'safe journey'. An adequate written risk assessment that clearly identifies any risks to passengers and shows how potential risks will be reduced is crucial. Risk assessments do not have to be onerous and once completed should be re-visited once a year to re-assess standards.

This specific risk assessment is not about the activity or purpose of the trip.

This risk assessment is about:

- The standard and type of transport used.
- Qualifications and experience of the driver
- When it is necessary for two drivers to be hired for longer trips to comply with drivers' hours Regulations
- Route to be travelled.
- Forward planning including emergency plans in the event of breakdown, accident or illness.

Every school should have a Transport Document that includes a Seat Belt Policy, clearly detailing how seat belt wearing will be enforced.

Safety advice given to the school by the coach company must be taken seriously.

Once on board a coach it is the driver that is in charge and not the teacher.

Schools must adhere to a transport company's safety rules and instructions just in the same way that they would when travelling by sea or with an airline. This is a legal requirement. Schools must be aware of and adhere to seat belt legislation in all respects.

For clarification please contact BUSK directly.

Schools may contact Busk directly for help on how to produce a transport / seatbelt policy.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF SCHOOLS WHEN ORGANISING SCHOOL TRIPS AND

VISITS ABROAD CAN BE FOUND AT

WWW.BUSK-UK.COM.



Driving
the UK
forward

