

Information Leaflet number:
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Sheffield Children's 
NHS Foundation Trust

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Early Years Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Service Ryegate Children's Centre

Car Seat Information

For further advice contact:

Main hospital number: 0114 271 7000

Patient Advice & Liaison Team (PALS)
The Children's Hospital
Western Bank
Sheffield
S10 2TH
PALS office: 0114 271 7594
www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk

Review 2021

Our young patients
are at the centre of everything
we do and all our work is focused
on providing them with the
best facilities, equipment and
experience possible, helping to
provide a world-class facility that
is positioned at the very forefront
of paediatric care.



www.tchc.org.uk
Tel: 0114 271 7203
Email: charity@sch.nhs.uk

Reg Charity No 505002

The
Children's
Hospital
Sheffield 

This information sheet has been put together by the Occupational Therapists working with the Early Years Team to assist you in buying a suitable car seat for your child.

It is a legal requirement for all parents/carers to provide appropriate car seating for their child. This also applies to children with disabilities except in very exceptional circumstances when your doctor may be willing to sign an exception certificate.

As a team of Occupational Therapists, we are not trained to assess or fit car seats and would strongly advise you to seek professional advice and assessment to ensure that your child is adequately protected. It is important to ensure that the car seat is compatible with your car.

We hope this information leaflet will assist you in making the best choice.

When do I need to change to a larger car Seat?

Although very often car seats give a minimum and maximum age approximation, it is the weight guidelines that are the crucial guide to follow. Most baby car seats (Group 0 and 0+) will be suitable up to 13kg. Children are significantly safer travelling in rearward facing car seats and so we would discourage you from swapping to a forward facing seat until necessary.

How do I know when my child can move to a forward facing seat?

Until your child has developed the skills to sit on the floor independently, you would be advised to continue to sit your child in a rearward facing seat. Extend rearward facing seats (for children up to 18 or 25kg) are gradually becoming more available on the open market and are the safest way to transport your child as they can prevent head and neck injuries in an accident.

Can I get financial help to purchase a car seat?

There is no statutory provision for funding of car seats. There are a variety of charities, which will help with financial assistance to purchase specialist car seats only. Your Occupational Therapist will be able to help in providing information about appropriate charities and with a letter of support for your application. Some charities do have a preferred supplier or may ask to provide two comparable quotes.

Useful Contacts

William Merritt Disabled Living Centre, Aire House, 100 Town Street, Rodley, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS13 1HP
Tel: 01133508989 www.williammerrittleeds.org
For impartial specialist advice and assessment with a comprehensive range of car seats.

In Car Safety Centre, Milton Keynes
Tel: 01908220909, www.incarsafetycentre.co.uk
Provides a helpline and impartial consultations by appointment.

Disabled Living Foundation, 4th Floor – Jessica House, Red Lion Square, 191 Wandsworth, High Street, SW18 4LS
Tel: 0300 74328015, www.dlf.org.uk
Produce fact sheets about children's equipment as well as detailed information on specific items of equipment including car seats.

Crelling Harness, Lancashire
Tel: 01253 852298 <https://www.crelling.com/>
A company offering a range of seatbelts and harnesses for children and adults with special needs for postural support or safety for challenging behaviours. Harnesses are designed for use on Vehicle Seats, Aircraft Seats, Wheelchairs, Stair lifts, Bathing & Shower seats. They also make a range of walking reins suitable for children and adults.

The following companies will come to your home to demonstrate and advise you in your choice of specialised car seats-

Windmill Special Needs Co Ltd, 01613 455361,
www.windmillspecialneeds.co.uk

R 82 Ltd, 012156 12222, www.r82.com

JCM Seating, 01733405830, www.jcmseating.co.uk

D.C.S Joncare, 01235523353, www.joncare.co.uk

Otto Bock Healthcare Ltd, 01784744900, www.ottobock.co.uk

Tender care Ltd, 01903 72616, www.tendercareltd.com