

# Wellingtonia Transporting Children Policy



Authorised by	Anna Davies/Steve Butler
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# Wellingtonia Transporting Children Policy

## **Legislative framework and guidance:**

Regulation 7: The children's wishes and feelings standard.

Regulation 10: The health and well-being standard.

Regulation 12: The Protection of Children Standard

## **Overview:**

Young people are transported in a safe way which not only protects their health and safety but also their dignity and personal choice.

## **Outcome:**

Staff transport young people in the safest possible manner.

Vehicles used by Home are serviced regularly.

Seat belts are worn appropriately by staff and young people.

Mechanical restraints are only used when absolutely necessary.

Public transport is used in a safe way.

Young people are free to walk without harnesses unless absolutely necessary.

## **Manager Responsibilities:**

To ensure cars and minibuses are appropriately serviced and the staff who drive have been appropriately trained.

To ensure that the risk for each young person being transported is assessed.

To ensure a Physical Intervention report is written every time a mechanical restraint is used within a vehicle.

To ensure a Physical Intervention report is written if a walking harness is used by staff in an unplanned way.

If young people are required to have mechanical restraints due to risk then the manager will review and reflect upon their use weekly. No young person will continue using a mechanical restraint unless absolutely necessary.

To ensure staff are aware of the possible risks for each young person in accessing vehicles, whilst out walking and whilst using public transport.

## **Policy for Staff and Young People:**

Staff must provide young people with clear boundaries in regards to transport safety and any issues arising from this must be reported to the Manager.

Staff must support and encourage young people to leave the home and access the wider community, however young people have the right to not go into a vehicle or to leave the home if they do not wish to.

Mechanical Restraints (including walking and vehicle harness) should never be used to make the staff members task easier, they should only ever be used in a safeguarding situation where the young person will place themselves or others at risk.

If a young person requires a harness to leave the home then staff must question whether the young person actually wishes to leave the home and therefore every effort must be made to communicate with the young person to gain their views, wishes and feelings regarding the trip.

## **Driver Documentation and Risk Assessment:**

Any driver of a vehicle transporting young people must:

Have a valid and current full driving licence, which has been held for at least six months.

Be fit to drive the vehicle.

Drive legally and according to the Highway Code.

The driver must:

Dynamically risk assess each journey and ensure they feel comfortable with transporting the young person. The staff member may request another member of staff to accompany them if deemed necessary.

Be aware of the individual risk assessment of each young person they transport to ensure they are aware of any risks.

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