

little rainbows



It has come to our attention that some children are not using either the correct type of car seat or going in one at all.

Car seat safety is a serious issue, please take the time to read through the information below and make sure you or anyone who may be transporting your child has the correct seat.

It is very important to ensure that your child travels in an appropriate child restraint, which:

- Conforms to the United Nations standard, ECE Regulation 44.04 (or R 44.03) or to the new i-size regulation, R129. Look for the 'E' mark label on the seat.
- Is suitable for your child's weight and size
- Is correctly fitted according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The table below shows the type of seat needed at different ages/stages...

Type of Child Restraint	Weight Range	Approx. Age Range
Rearward-facing baby seat	Group 0 0 - 10kg (22 lbs)	Birth to 6-9 months
	Group 0+ 0 - 13kg (29 lbs)	Birth to 12-15 months
	i-size Not based on weight, but check child's height is within the range for the seat	Up to at least 15 months
Combination seat (Rearward and Forward-facing)	Group 0+ and 1 0-18 kg (40 lbs)	Birth - 4 years
	Group 0+, 1 & 2 Birth to 25 kg (55 lbs)	Birth to 6 years
Forward-facing child seat	Group 1 9-18 kg (20 - 40 lbs)	9 months - 4 years
	Group 1, 2 and 3 9 - 36 kg (20 - 79 lbs)	1 to 11 years
High-backed Booster Seat	Group 2 15 - 25 kg (33 - 55 lbs)	4 to 6 years
High-backed Booster Seat	Group 2 and 3 15 - 36 kg (33 - 79 lbs)	4 to 11 years
	Group 3 22 - 36 kg (48 - 79 lbs) and 125cm or taller	6 - 11 years
Booster Cushion (From 9th February 2017)	Group 2/3 15-36kg These seats will ultimately be phased out as manufacturers comply with the new regulation.	4-12 years

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Legal Penalties

The fixed penalty for failing to wear a seat belt as a driver or passenger is a £100 fine. If the case is taken to court, you could face a fine of up to £500.

As a driver, if you are convicted of failing to ensure that a child passenger is using an appropriate child car seat or wearing a seat belt according to the legal requirements described above, the fixed penalty is a £100 fine. If the case is taken to court, you could face a fine of up to £500.

In addition to the legal penalties, failure to wear a seat belt or failure to ensure that a child passenger uses an appropriate child car seat or wears a seat belt according to the legal requirements described above, could affect any claims against your motor insurance cover.

You could also face civil proceedings for damages, if (for example) you failed to safely carry someone else's child.

But, of course, the most serious penalty of all could be that you or a passenger loses their life!

<http://www.childcarseats.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules/using-a-child-car-seat-or-booster-seat>

<https://www.nct.org.uk/parenting/law-child-car-seats>