

Introduction

Scottish Gymnastics appreciate that clubs could not operate without the goodwill of volunteers and parents ensuring that children are returned home, transported to and from training and competitions in a private car. Without this support, some children would not be able to participate at all.

Scottish Gymnastics strongly advises that coaches and volunteers **do not take children on journeys in their car**. If all alternatives have been exhausted and a coach/volunteer has to transport a child there are a number of safety measures that should be put in place to minimise the risk:

Transporting children and young people

Risk assessment

If the club does expressly accept responsibility for travel arrangements, it should undertake a risk assessment including the following areas:

- Driver must hold a PVG and clubs should be satisfied that the information provided is satisfactory.
- Driver must hold an appropriate driving licence.
- Vehicle is fit for purpose e.g. passed an MOT or service.
- The driver has breakdown cover and business insurance for the vehicle
- The driver has access to a phone and the emergency contact details for those being transported.
- Written consent is obtained from the parents/carers and parents/carers have all details of journey and driver.
- Take all reasonable safety measures e.g. children in the back seat, seat belts worn and booster seats if required.
- Appropriate ratio adult to gymnast ratio
- Consider experience level of driver

Managing adult to child ratio

Coaches and volunteers should never be one-to-one in a vehicle with a gymnast. Where possible there should be two adults in the vehicle. However, when there are multiple gymnasts, a coach can drive the group alone providing the final drop off destination is for multiple gymnasts and doesn't leave the coach one-to-one with a gymnast.

Private arrangements

Where parents and carers decide the transportation of gymnasts to and from the activity, it will be the responsibility of the parents and carers to satisfy themselves about the appropriateness and safety of the arrangements.