

Reassurances

- * Take comfort in knowing that Bristol Community Transport offer a wide range of vehicle types adapted to accommodate different disabilities. All their drivers are DRB checked. They will happily discuss your needs with you.
- * Bristol Parent Carers will handle your enquiry efficiently and confidentially, and will ask for feedback so that we can learn from the Pilot for the future.

Parent carer comments about this scheme:

"It meant we could enjoy a stress free day travel-wise and it meant we could all go together"

"A memorable experience that both children still talk about"

"Booking was quick & straightforward"

"It's the first time I've been able to take the boys swimming"

"Our driver was fantastic"

"I'd highly recommend this scheme to other families in similar situations"



Could this be you?

Amy wanted to take her son with cerebral palsy and his friend to the Zoo but she doesn't own a car - *Let's Go! Bristol* made it happen.

Sue and her friend Tracy wanted to go together for the weekend to Butlins, Minehead. Both their daughters use wheelchairs, so they didn't have an adapted vehicle big enough - *Let's Go! Bristol* made it happen.

Doug and his family wanted to take their daughter with complex medical needs to stay with relatives in Blackpool and take everyone to the seaside for the first time - *Let's Go! Bristol* made it happen.

John and Helen stayed in Bristol for several months whilst their son was an inpatient at the Children's Hospital, and between treatments they wanted to take him out - *Let's Go! Bristol* made it happen.

A disability-support group needed a way of getting their families to a venue - *Let's Go! Bristol* made it happen.



Service providers



Struggle to get out and about with your special needs child?

We can help!

Let's Go! Bristol Short Breaks Transport Scheme

For families of children and young people, 0-25 years, with disabilities, special educational needs, and life-limiting conditions, who live in the Bristol City Council area or are inpatients at Bristol hospitals.

For information & translations visit
www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk

Service funders



What's on offer

This scheme helps parent carers who struggle to access transport for short breaks with their family. Perhaps you can't drive, don't own a car, don't have an adapted vehicle large enough for family & friends, or need to support your child on their trip?

You can use:-

- * Accessible cars with or without a driver
- * Accessible minibuses with a driver
- * Minibus driver training (MIDAS) so in future you or your organisation can drive a minibus.

Each named child / young person with SEND can use this scheme **for trips up to a financial limit per child**. For example, each year you can use the transport for:-

- * Up to 6 local trips in Bristol for a regular activity
- * Up to 3 trips to venues in neighbouring counties,
- * Or 1 long trip further afield.

You can have the transport for the day, evening, a weekend, or a holiday (1 week maximum).

You can request a driver for day and evening trips. For any overnight breaks, you must drive yourself.

The choice is yours!

To make funds go further, we ask for a **voluntary** contribution to costs depending on distance travelled & length of hire. Organisations are asked to contribute to MIDAS training costs.



What will happen

It's simple and straightforward:-

- * **Before you call**, plan your trip and passengers' needs. Parents must have a confirmed destination, date, numbers travelling, etc, to secure a booking; otherwise it will be treated as a query only.
- * Contact the scheme **at least two weeks** in advance. Provide **more notice** if travelling in busy holiday times, as the vehicles get booked up quickly.

* **Book online** at www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk or call **07954 473953** on **Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9.30am to 1pm**. Email **enquiries to letsgo@bristolparentcarers.org.uk**

- * Bristol Parent Carers (BPC) will set your child / young person up as a member, let you know if the scheme can help, and register your booking.
- * Bristol Community Transport will contact you if they have queries about your vehicle or arrangements, otherwise they will confirm your booking by email or phone.

Cancellation policy

We realise circumstances may arise which mean you have to cancel your trip or training, but please provide as much notice as possible. Cancellations incur costs to the scheme. Thus the following charges apply:

- * If you cancel up to a week beforehand - no charge
- * If you cancel with sufficient notice (one week to 24 hours notice before booking date) - £15 charge
- * If only 24 hour notice or less - full hire cost and training cost is charged.

These cancellation charges will be deducted from YOUR remaining trip allocation under this scheme.

Conditions

Who should travel

- * All parent carers take **FULL** responsibility for their children on the trips.
- * Each named child / young person with SEND must be accompanied by enough adults to meet their needs (one of which should be a parent carer), and can be joined by their siblings / friends.
- * A parent carer may request that a named adult (over 18) takes full responsibility for the child / young person on the trip - this is only allowed when an Agreement to Delegate Responsibility form is signed by the parent.
- * Young people with SEND are not risk-assessed, so those less than 16 years cannot travel alone. But those 16 years & older can either travel with a 'buddy' (18 years & above) or alone (if capacity and impairment allow) with parental consent.

Who can drive

- * To drive yourself, you need to be at least 21, had a full licence for 2 years, & meet certain criteria. Any endorsements must be declared & discussed with Bristol Community Transport (BCT) in advance.
- * As part of the booking process, BCT will undertake a DVLA check on your driving licence.
- * You can only drive a minibus if you have received MIDAS training (we can provide this for you).
- * If using a driver - remember they are all volunteers and should be treated with respect.
- * If you need the driver to stay with you at a venue or the route involves a toll, then you are required to pay for the driver's entry ticket and the toll charge.