

# Gloucester City Council

## *Environmental Health Factsheet*

### Children travelling in Taxis and Private Hire Cars

The law requires children (and adults) travelling in the front of all vehicles to use an appropriate child restraint or adult seat belt, if they are available.

#### Under 3 yrs old

If carried in the front seat, an appropriate child restraint **MUST** be used and an adult seat belt is not enough!

If carried in the rear seat an appropriate child restraint **MUST** be used, IF AVAILABLE.

#### 3yrs - 11yrs and under 1.35 metres tall

If carried in the front seat, an appropriate child restraint must be worn IF AVAILABLE.  
If not, an adult seat belt **MUST** be worn IF AVAILABLE.

#### 12yrs - 13yrs 1.35 metres or more in height

If carried in the front or rear seat, an adult seat belt **MUST** be worn IF AVAILABLE.

#### 14yrs and over

If carried in the front or rear seat, an adult seat belt **MUST** be worn IF AVAILABLE.

#### Legal Penalties

It is the driver's responsibility to ensure any passengers over the age of 14yrs are strapped in.

If you are convicted of failing to wear a seat belt as a driver or passenger, you could face a fine up to £500.00.

As a driver, if you are convicted of failing to ensure that a child passenger is using an appropriate child restraint or wearing a seat belt according to the legal requirement described above, you could face a fine of up to £500.00.

This could also affect any claims against your motor insurance cover and you could 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!

EHF93  
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