

Transport Services

Do you have enough trained minibus drivers for your school? Are you aware of the legislation regarding school minibus transport?

Any drivers who passed their driving test after January 1997 may not have the entitlement to drive minibuses (including teachers and day care staff) and may need a full PSV D1 Professional Licence.

What we offer

- **The Minibus Drivers Awareness Scheme (MIDAS)**

The MIDAS scheme allows organisations to assess and train minibus drivers and is highly recommended for school staff driving on a category B licence who do not have the D1 entitlement. Although the scheme is not mandatory there are many advantages to successful completion of the training. Drivers will feel more confident in their ability to drive and will gain valuable experience of driving a minibus, increasing competence.

Some employers may require drivers to have taken this training and some insurance companies may offer lower premiums based on drivers having completed the training.

We have qualified staff to support drivers in successfully completing MIDAS training, please contact us for further information.

- **Driving under the Section 19 permit scheme (Minibus Permit)**

A Section 19 permit is usually issued for a set fee and is given to non profit making bodies that run transport services which benefit the community.

Section 19 permits are issued to bodies to enable them to provide transport for their own members, or other people whom the organisation exists to help.

The vehicle must not be used to transport members of the general public. It must also not be used with a view to profit, or for an activity which is itself carried out with a view to profit. Category D1 (101) restriction licence holders are entitled to drive minibuses that are operated for 'hire or reward' in accordance with a Section 19 permit.

Our pledge

Transport and Travel Services will assess driver(s) level of training requirements for MIDAS and offer guidance to obtain the professional PSV D1 licence. Please contact us for further information.

Once a permit has been obtained, a member of staff can drive a minibus under the conditions outlined above. These permits only apply within the UK.

Section 19, Standard Bus Permit application forms can be obtained from the Council's Fleet Management services as the designated body representing the Traffic Commissioner. There is a cost for these permits.

- **Vehicle Hire**

Fleet operations have vehicles for hire with qualified drivers who are trained in first aid, manual handling and MIDAS. These range from 9 - 28 seat accessible vehicles which can carry up to six wheelchairs, depending on the number of passengers.

- **Accessible Vehicle and D1 Licence training**

We offer training in the safe and emergency operation of the passenger lift, securing wheelchairs with the correct equipment and the removal and installation of seats. D1 Training, the 'starter pack' includes both theory tests arranged at a DSA test centre local to you. The practical training and test will be arranged to meet your requirements.

Benefits to your school

- ▶ We offer guidance and can point you in the right direction ensuring that you are fully compliant and safe in the knowledge that the school minibus is not breaking the law when used by the school.
- ▶ We also monitor the Council's 'Permit to Drive Scheme' and assess drivers who do have the minibus entitlement within their driving licence (passed before January 1997) in the MIDAS scheme.
- ▶ We can offer individual packages based on your requirements - please contact us for advice.
- ▶ Vehicle hire with driver to suit your particular needs, from 9 to 28 seats. All vehicles are accessible and can carry up to six wheelchairs.
- ▶ Accessible vehicle training safe and emergency operation of passenger lifts.
- ▶ Securing of wheelchairs and seat removal and installation.
- ▶ We can offer the full service for D1 training including arranging the theory and practical tests. Driver training will be arranged to suit your requirements.



**Andy Frogg - Fleet Operations
Manager (Vehicle Hire, Training)**

Tel: 0115 969 4390

Email: andy.frogg@nottsc.gov.uk