

top tips from parent/carers
for transporting children
with SEND

TOP TIPS FOR HOME - SCHOOL TRANSPORT



COMMUNICATE...

Say hello to parent/carers & the child. A smiley face is more welcoming & easier to read than a serious face. If possible, let parent/carers know if you will be off work even if it is just 1 day. Our children need consistency & routine, so an unexpected change can impact on their whole day.



REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS...

Our children often struggle with sounds and smells. Turn down the radio, don't wear strong perfume/aftershave. A parent/carer would be more than happy to share with you anything which may trigger their child - either good or bad. Don't ask the child lots of questions - it can be overwhelming and increase anxiety in an already stressful situation.



THE JOURNEY...

Always try to stick to planned routes so that the child and parent/carer knows which way you travel. This is good for emergencies but also for reducing anxiety as the child may learn the route taken. Try to keep pick up & drop off times the same. Make sure adult conversations are appropriate - a child might be frightened by events in the news for example.



LISTEN TO PARENTS...

We might not have a diploma but we are experts on our own children - we have valuable lived experience which we are happy to share & it can help you to meet our child's needs. Ask our opinion, listen to us & try our suggestions. If it has been a difficult morning for example, we may share that with you - it's not for sympathy it's just to prepare you in case our child is upset.



STAFF TRAINING...

Make sure that staff working with our children are fully trained to meet our child's needs. We need staff who put their training into practice and can demonstrate a good understanding/acceptance of our child's needs. When there are new staff let them buddy up to learn how best to deal with a child.



Wakefield
Parent Carer Forum

**Unit 2
Airedale Business Centre
Kershaw Avenue
Castleford
WF10 3ES**

**www.wakefieldparentcarers.co.uk
admin@wakefieldparentcarers.co.uk**