



Please note that it is the driver's responsibility to ensure that this law is complied with and it is therefore the driver that would be reported for any offences and not the child.

This amendment applies to the following:-

- Motor vehicles constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of passengers and is not a goods vehicle
- Motor vehicles with no more than 8 seats in addition to the driver's seat
- Motor vehicles with 4 or more wheels
- Motor vehicles that have a maximum laden weight not exceeding 3,500 kilograms.

For further information on the law relating to child car seats, please contact
Traffic Office,
Guernsey Police Headquarters
Tel. 725111.

For further information on Child Safety, please contact
The Health Promotion Unit
Tel. 707311

AMENDMENT TO THE SEAT BELTS ORDINANCE

The Seat Belts Ordinance, 1988, has now been amended to include the wearing of belts in the rear of vehicles by children and young persons up to and including 14 year olds. This is entitled **The Seat Belts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2004.**

Subsection 9A (1) of the law makes it an offence for a person, where a child or young person aged between 6 and 14 years is in any rear seat of a motor car and a seat belt is fitted in respect of that seat and is available for use, without reasonable excuse, to drive that car on a road unless that child or young person wears that seat belt.

Subsection 9A (2) of the law makes it an offence for a person, where a child under the age of 6 years is in any rear seat of a motor car and a child restraint is fitted in respect of that seat and is available for use, without reasonable excuse, to drive that car on a road unless the child wears that child restraint.

Subsection 9A (3) of the law makes it an offence for a person, where a child under 12 years and less than 150 centimetres in height is in the rear of a motor car, where no seat belt or child restraint is fitted, and where a seat in the front of the car is provided with an appropriate seat belt but the seat is not occupied by any person, must not drive, without reasonable excuse, the car on a road.

Subsection 9A (4) of the law provides that subsections (1), (2) and (3) above where a child or young person has a medical exemption certificate or a disabled child or young person is wearing a disabled person's seat belt.

Subsection (A) (5) of the law provides that subsections (2) and (3) above do not apply in relation to a child under the age of 1 year in a carry cot provided that the carry cot is restrained by straps.

The New Guernsey Seat Belts Law

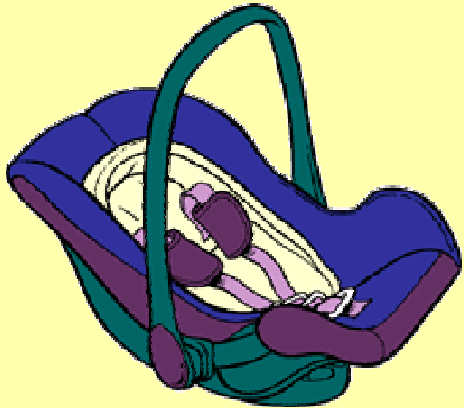


The Seat Belts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2004



This law came into force on Monday, 2nd August 2004 and means that any child sat in the rear of any motor vehicle where a seat belt is fitted and is available for use **must** be restrained.

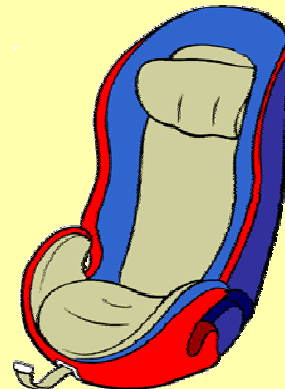
From birth to 6 years



The child must be restrained in a properly designed and constructed child seat suitable for their age and weight, which may be a properly designed seat or harness system to fit that child's age range. (Any such device must be used strictly in accordance with the maker's instructions for fitting and use).

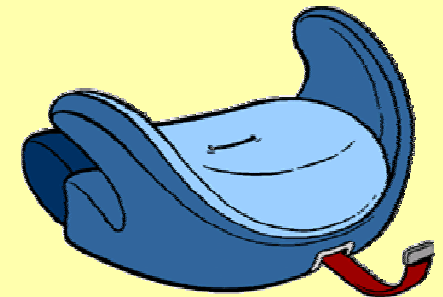
From 6 to 10 years

The child must be restrained in a properly designed and constructed child seat suitable for their age and weight, or wear the adult seat belt in conjunction with an ancillary device (e.g. a booster cushion). This ensures that the adult belt fits them correctly and does not cause them to suffer undue danger or discomfort from wearing the belt, and that the child would be restrained in the event of an accident.



From 10 to 12 years

The child must wear the adult seat belt – provided that the adult belt fits them correctly. If it does not an ancillary device should still be used.



From 12 to 14 years

The child must wear the adult seat belt provided.

