



## **SAFETY CHARTER**

### **When you hire a coach from Bennetts Coaches we guarantee to provide:**

- A first class service by a family run business established since 1962.
- Fully maintained coaches meeting all legal compliances.
- Access to records/audit trails of driver walk around checks, vehicle defects/parts ordered etc, by prior arrangement. This will demonstrate how well run our business is – essential for passenger safety.
- Coaches with an average age less than 5 years.
- Coaches that meet ECE R66 Regulations (anti-crush roof).
- Professional drivers trained in all aspects of transporting passengers.
- Coaches with safety belts fitted by the manufacturer to legally required specifications.
- Coaches carrying safety and emergency equipment including first aid kit and fire extinguisher.
- Coaches fitted with ABS braking systems, speed limiters, hands-free mobile phone and tracking systems, safety inspected at least every 6 weeks.
- Coaches with clearly defined emergency exits to include rear exit door, specified windows, roof hatches.
- Emergency planning procedures for drivers to put into action in the unlikely event of a crash/breakdown.
- Safety announcements prior to the beginning of a journey.
- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked drivers.

### **When we carry children or young people, the organiser(s) of the trip is/are required to:**

- Follow any instructions given by the driver (legal requirement). Drivers are legally in charge and have the same authority as an airline pilot or sea captain over who they carry.
- Inform the driver immediately if any problem arises during the journey.
- Take all reasonable measures to ensure that children/young people do not cause any distractions that might affect the ability of the driver to concentrate on the important task of driving safely (legal requirement).
- Assist the driver in meeting the Driver's House Regulations (legal requirement).
- Ensure all passengers are wearing safety belts correctly and that belts are worn throughout the journey (legal requirement). Incorrectly worn safety belts carry the same penalty as not wearing a belt at all.
- Locate where all exits are positioned and where emergency and safety equipment is stored.
- Ensure luggage is stored safely and exits and aisles are kept clear (legal requirement).
- Ensure two adults are seated at the rear emergency exit and that they are familiar with how to use this emergency exit and ensure adults are seated throughout the coach with the task of pupil supervision. The organiser of the trip has a legal duty to provide a safe journey.

**This safety charter is designed to improve the safety of every passenger when travelling with Bennetts Coaches and has been produced in conjunction with BUSK UK.**