

Driving support and resources

www.devon.gov.uk/cwan

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Information about support with transport for families with a child with special needs, or support for families with a young person with special needs who wants to learn to drive.

The **Motability Scheme** gives customers who receive the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) the option of using this part of the allowance to contract hire a car.

This includes:

- a new car every three years
- insurance, servicing and maintenance
- servicing and maintenance
- full breakdown assistance.

A wide range of adaptations can be made to the car, often at no extra cost. You can also nominate up to two other drivers. Call **0845 456 4566** or visit **www.motability.co.uk**

Cornwall Mobility Centre works with Devon Drivers Centre to offer advice and services including:

- car adaptation assessments
- specialist car seats and restraints, including fitting
- wheelchair accessible vehicles
- getting passengers and equipment in and out of a car safely
- driving tuition.

Contact Cornwall Mobility Centre on **01872 254920** or visit **www.cornwallmobilitycentre.co.uk**

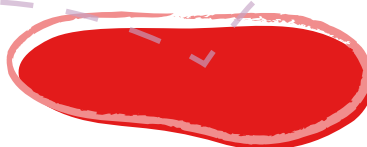
The Blue Badge Scheme provides a national range of parking concessions to help severely disabled people travel independently, as a driver or passenger, by allowing them to park close to their destination.

Your child qualifies automatically for a Blue Badge if they are over two years old and:

- receive the higher rate of the mobility component of DLA
- or**
- are registered blind.

Your child may also be eligible if they are more than two years old and:

- have a permanent and substantial disability which means they cannot walk, or which makes walking very difficult
- or**
- drive a motor vehicle regularly, have a severe disability in both arms, and are unable to operate all or some types of parking meter, or would find it very difficult to operate them.



Factsheet 9

If you are a parent of a child who is less than two years old you can apply for a badge if your child has a specific medical condition which means that:

- they must always be accompanied by bulky medical equipment which cannot be carried around without great difficulty
- they need to be kept near a vehicle at all times, so that they can, if necessary, be treated in the vehicle, or quickly driven to a place where they can be treated, such as a hospital.

For more information contact MyDevon on **0845 155 1007**

Learning to drive

Family Fund may be able to help pay for a parent or carer of a child with a disability to learn to drive. The fund can give financial help to families of children with disabilities if your income and savings are below a certain threshold. Call **0845 130 4542** or visit **www.familyfund.org.uk**

Motability have a grant scheme for driving lessons for young people aged 16-24. They have to be getting the higher rate mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance and using it to lease a car from the Motability Scheme. Call **0845 456 4566** or visit **www.motability.co.uk**

Driving test

Theory tests are held at test centres, which are usually wheelchair accessible and have facilities for disabled people. The theory test system is designed to be accessible and is available in spoken and written formats.

Candidates with hearing difficulties can watch a video of the test in British Sign Language.

Disabled drivers may be allowed extra time for their **practical test**. This is to allow time to explain the nature and function of any adaptations used to the examiner, and to allow extra time to get in and out of the car.

It's important to mention any special requirements you have when you book your test with the Driving Standards Authority (DSA)

For information about all aspects of driving for people with disabilities visit **www.direct.gov.uk**

DISCplus local information co-ordinators

The co-ordinators are there to help you get information on services and support available in your area.

Phone the main office on **0845 155 1013** and ask to speak to your local co-ordinator or email **discplus@devon.gov.uk**

