



**Able to Travel**



**We believe everyone has the right to make safe journeys to visit family and friends, to learn, pursue hobbies, enjoy days out and to have access to more job opportunities.**

### **Who is it for?**

Children (from Year 6 upwards) and adults of all ages who live, work, study or travel in Barnet or attend a support group in Barnet or are associated with a Barnet based charity and are any of the following:

- people on the autism spectrum
- anyone with Special Educational Needs and/or Physical Disabilities
- vulnerable when travelling
- anxious about travelling on public transport

and may be:

- aiming towards independent travel or wanting to feel more independent when out with others
- wanting to increase their confidence and their travelling skills

### **On the day**

Sessions take place once a month on Tuesdays, twice a day (10.15am – 11.50am and 12.15 – 13.50). We meet at Edgware Bus Station (next to Edgware tube station). Local parking is available.

Participants are invited to attend a single one-off session. You will need to pre-book in advance.

Please email [road.safety@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:road.safety@barnet.gov.uk) for a booking form or if you have any queries.



All participants will board a privately hired bus which will travel a pre-planned route in Edgware (except on occasion, see 'please note' section below).

- A TfL member of staff will speak to participants about how to be safe whilst travelling on a bus
- Ticket inspectors will speak about travel cards and the role they play
- Role play scenarios will take place both on board and off the bus performed by plain clothes police officers. Themes covered typically include: stranger danger, theft, undesirable passengers. After each scenario, participants will discuss what happened and what can be learned
- Following a talk on road safety, the bus will stop (on Spur Road outside London Academy). Participants will be guided outside to cross over at the pelican crossing before boarding back on to the bus

An Easy Read document with information about the session aimed at trainees is emailed prior to the session.

Please note:

- London Sovereign donate the use of a bus and a driver for Able To Travel sessions. Occasionally, a driver may be needed elsewhere – sometimes last minute. In this instance, they will try to find a stationary bus that can be used.
- A sufficient number of carers/staff should accompany the trainees at all times and remain responsible for their safety
- If the trainee does not normally have or require a carer, they can attend without one
- Trainees should bring and wear hi-viz vests if they normally wear them when going on a trip
- We tend not to warn or introduce the scenarios to participants in advance (unless specifically requested) so that the situation is as close to real life as possible. The scenarios are not overly dramatic or threatening, and we are always nearby (including at least one uniformed police officer). Each scenario will usually last just a few minutes and we discuss it immediately after. We meet the police actors at the end of the session.



Sessions are free, all we ask is for your feedback after the session. Here's a sample of feedback received from previous participants.

#### Participants

61/63 found the training interesting  
61/61 said they learnt something new  
60/63 said it would be useful for bus travel  
61/63 said they enjoyed it  
62/64 would recommend it

#### Carers

15/15 said the topics were relevant to their clients  
14/15 said the training would be useful for future bus travel  
14/15 said the training was adapted to meet their client's needs  
15/15 said the road safety element was beneficial

The trainers were personable and made it so relatable, really interesting engaging and relevant. Excellent 10/10.

I really liked how interactive it is with the actors coming on the bus. It was also engaging, fun and light hearted.

All the students have different needs, but you met various needs of our students, some of who travel independently, and others who will hopefully use the training in their future travelling, and hopefully provided them with confidence also.

Thank you so much for the public bus training. It was very beneficial, educational and exciting.

I liked the relevant questions and how you got the students involved.

All the trainers were fantastic and really engaged with our learners.