Child Car Seats - Explained

Cross Party Group – June 2017

Sandy Allan – Road Safety Manager in Scotland
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All children travelling in a car must use correct child restraint for their weight and height

• Until they are 135 cm tall or 12 years of age
In rear facing travel the head and neck are supported by the child seat in a frontal collision (the most common type of accident).
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FROM BIRTH
Group 0/0+
REARWARD FACING - affixed by vehicle seatbelt

FROM 9 – 12 months
Group 1
FORWARD Facing – affixed by vehicle seatbelt

From 4 Plus
Group 2/3
FORWARD Facing – child secured by vehicle seatbelt
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Forward v Rearward facing pros and cons

- Research has shown a child can be up to **five times** safer being carried rearward facing.
- Rearward facing can now be extended to approximately 25 kg.
- Forward facing allows child to be seen easier?
- Reduced requirement for space with forward facing.
- Tendency to ‘feel’ forward facing is more natural.
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Isofix

- Introduced by Britax Romer to simplify child seat installation
- Fixes to body of car at three points, two anchor points and top tether/leg support
- Became part of ECU 14 and 44 in Feb 2004
- All new cars manufactured since 2013 must be fitted with ISOFIX and top tether points
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i-size – it’s all about height

- New legislation ECE R129 came into force 9 July 2013 in parallel with R44/04
- Side Protection included in testing
- Mandatory for all children to be carried rearward facing until at least 15 months (0 and 0+) (up to 83cm)
- Car Seat position in vehicle must be approved
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### Side Impact Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECE R129</th>
<th>ECE R44</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Side Impact Testing</td>
<td>Insert SI movie (R129)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### New generation dummies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q Series Dummies</th>
<th>P Series Dummies</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• More biofidelic</td>
<td>• Less biofidelic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 30+ channels of data</td>
<td>• 3 channels of data</td>
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ECE R44 Continues to evolve – most significant recent changes

- **June 2013**
  - 540° roll-over test
  - Airbag warning label

- **January 2017**
  - No new R44 approvals (or extension of approval) for booster cushions for children below 125cm

- **September 2017**
  - No approval of new ISOFIX integral products

- **September 2020**
  - No extension of ISOFIX integral products
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Booster cushions – New Legislation

9 February 2017 – booster seats manufactured for only children in excess of 22kgs and over 125cm tall.

Existing booster seats/cushions can still be sold and used.

RoSPA always recommend leaving the back on a booster seat to give lateral support.
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Duty of Care

All children up to age of 12 must be carried in an approved seat - DRIVER

Local Authorities/Care Organisations - Carrying other peoples children?
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Sandy Allan
sallan@rospa.com
http://www.childcarseats.org.uk/