

Absconding and Wandering

Most parents and caregivers of children with SEN view safety as a significant concern. For this reason, the below information was set up with the aim at being a starting point to consider safety aspects outside of the home. (Also see the handout for safety aspects inside of the home.) This list is not intended to be all inclusive and I do not endorse or inspect any individual product.

At the end of the handout is:

- Appendix A: List of companies mentioned in handout
- Appendix B: Additional reading regarding road safety, absconding and wandering

Please note that parents need to purchase these items themselves. You can consider charity funding with these purchases where appropriate and necessary. You can find further information about charity funding at:

www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk/en/articles/charitable-grants-for-ill-or-disabled-people

The following is a list of safety equipment you might want to consider:

Travel Safety:

- **Crelling Car and Airplane Harness:** They offer a large range of seat belts and harnesses for children and adults with special needs. Available from **Crelling**.



- **Cross strap:** The Cross Strap fits onto a 5 point harness and is designed to prevent a child from wriggling out. The padded strap fits round each of the shoulder straps at the front and helps stop a child from pulling the straps down and getting free. Available from **Fledglings**.



<https://fledglings.org.uk/collections/out-about/products/cross-strap>

- **GanEn Belt lock:** A buckle guard preventing children from opening the safety buckle. Available from **Amazon**.

www.amazon.co.uk/GanEn-Preventing-Children-Travelling-Keychain/dp/B0794WS2HK



- **In Car Safety Centre:** Based in Rayleigh Essex, In Car Safety Centre (ICSC) offers one to one support and advice to choose the right car seat for a child, their vehicle and the requirements of the family. They have many products on site from different manufacturers and over 25 years' experience in their field. www.incarsafetycentre.co.uk

- **The Motability Scheme:** enables disabled people to lease a new car, scooter or powered wheelchair by exchanging their Government funded mobility allowance. If you receive either the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance (HRMC DLA), the Enhanced

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Rate of the Mobility Component of Personal Independence Payment (ERMC PIP) , the War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement (WPMS) or the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP) you may be eligible to join the Motability Scheme. www.motability.co.uk

Absconding and wandering:

- Single use ID wristband: Parents can write ID info on underside. Available from **Fledglings**.
<https://fledglings.org.uk/collections/care-safety/products/fledglings-id-wristband>



- Kids ID Bracelets: variety of kids Id's available as running id bands, shoelace straps and water sport bands. Available from **Iceland** and **Medic Alert**.

<https://iceid.co.uk/kids-id/>

<https://www.medicalert.org.uk/products/?Age=Child>



- Idme Safety ID wristband: Wristband with your information on the inside, to alert others in case your child wanders. Make sure of size and colour before you buy. Available from **Safetots** and **Fledglings**.

www.safetots.co.uk/idme-kids-safety-id-wristband-medium-pink.html

<https://fledglings.org.uk/collections/out-about/products/dinosaur-child-id-bracelet>



- Wrist Link: Available from **Safetots**. The wrist link available from **Fledglings** is for both child and adults.

<https://www.safetots.co.uk/clippasafe-wrist-link-coloured.html>

<https://fledglings.org.uk/collections/out-about/products/safety-wrist-link>



- Harness and reins: Make sure to check the size, as they are developed for younger children in mind. Available from **Safetots**.

<https://www.safetots.co.uk/clippasafe-easy-wash-harness-and-rein-navy.html>



- Children's Backpacks with Reins: (check the dimensions and sizes before buy.) Available from **Fledglings**.

<https://fledglings.org.uk/collections/out-about>

- Backpack Safety Rein: ideal for older children or young people. Available from **Fledglings**.

<https://fledglings.org.uk/collections/out-about/products/backpack-safety-rein>



- Walking Reins: The strong harness on these walking reins will give you peace of mind and your child security, guidance and directional help when you are out walking together. Child and Adult version available. Available from **Fledglings**.



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<https://fledglings.org.uk/collections/out-about/products/walking-reins>

- GPS located watches: Waterproof tracker watches with GPS trackers (adults). Available from **Easylink UK**.

www.easylinkuk.co.uk/product/product-gps-location-trackers

Available from **Amazon**. (Examples, please see reviews yourself)

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Kids-Smart-Watch-GPS-Tracker-BLUE/dp/B087NK7WDQ>

www.amazon.co.uk/Watches-Phone-Waterproof-Tracker-Smartwatch-Birthday-Green/dp/B085Q7J4Y2

- GPS Tracker: GPS tracker on your phone for SEN. American company, who made it available in the UK. Available from **Angelsense**.

<https://www.angelsense.com/help/gps-for-special-needs/>

Again another American company, who made it available in the UK. Available from **Weenect**.

<https://www.weenect.com/en/frequent-questions/network-coverage/>

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Weenect-Kids-GPS-child-tracker/dp/B01711RNU8>

Buddi Wristband: Various features including GPS tracking. UK based. Available from **Buddi**.

www.buddi.co.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further advice or have questions.

Kind regards,

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Supplier list

The following suppliers were mentioned above:

Amazon	www.amazon.co.uk	
Angelsense	www.angelsense.com	
Products: GPS trackers		
Buddi	www.buddi.co.uk	Tel: 0800 978 8800
Products: GPS trackers		
Crelling	www.crelling.com	Tel: 01253 852298
Products: Large range of seat belts and harnesses		
Fledglings	www.fledglings.org.uk	Tel: 0203 319 9772
Products: Variety of safety and other SEN products		
IceID	https://iceid.co.uk/	Tel: 075 7706 5968
Products: Variety of Medical Id's		
In Car Safety Centre	www.incarsafetycentre.co.uk	Tel: 01702 808313
Products: Car seats and safety equipment & assessments		
Medic Alert	www.medicalert.org.uk	Tel: 01908 951045
Products: Variety of Medical Id Bracelets		
Safetots Ltd.	http://www.safetots.co.uk	Tel: 01438 728 888
Products: Stair gates, fire guards, safety essentials and bed rails etc.		
Weenect	www.weenect.com	
Products: GPS trackers		

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Further reading:

- Autism Speaks: The safety project has a wealth of information.
<https://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-safety-project>
- Autism Speaks: Autism Safety Kit. Use the printable forms and handouts in the Autism Safety Kit to develop a multifaceted safety plan specific to a person with autism's unique needs. Although this is written in the USA, it can easily be adapted to your needs.
<https://www.autismspeaks.org/tool-kit/autism-safety-kit>
<https://www.autismspeaks.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/Safety%20Forms.pdf>
- American National Autistic Society: Big Red Safety Box. You can download the booklet for free from the website. It contains lots of safety information and checklists. Again although USA, it can be easily adapted.
<https://nationalautismassociation.org/big-red-safety-box/>
- Road Safety Awareness from NAS:
<https://www.autism.org.uk/about/family-life/everyday-life/road-safety.aspx>
- NAS: Autism Alert card (free download)
<https://www.autism.org.uk/products/free-resources/autism-alert-cards.aspx>
<https://www.autism.org.uk/about/health/hospital-passport.aspx>
- Able2Learn social stories: Variety of free social stories to download e.g. please don't run, I will stay in my room at night, I will stop when I see a stop sign etc.
<https://able2learn.com/products/please-dont-run-social-story-pages-11.html>
<https://able2learn.com/products/i-will-stay-in-my-room-at-night-social-story-12-pages.html>
<https://able2learn.com/products/i-will-stop-when-i-see-a-stop-sign-social-story-11-pages.html>
- Road Safety Scotland: online road safety learning zone for children/students.
<https://roadsafety.scot/learning-zone/>