



Derby City Council

# 'i-size'

## REGULATION EXPLAINED

### The new i-size child car seat regulation was introduced on the 9th July 2013.

The key change of this regulation will make rear facing travelling mandatory for children up to 15 months old. At the moment rear facing seats are used up to a minimum of 9kgs and if a child can sit up unaided. This is roughly between 6 to 9 months old.

The new regulation means that children up to 15 months old will have to sit in a rear-facing car seat for all journeys. The reason for the change relates to safety. Rear-facing seats are the safest way to transport children in their early years helping to support their spine and prevent head and neck injuries.

#### Why is the 'i-size' regulation different?

'i-size' allows you to choose your child's car seat based on their age and size rather than weight. It will have a simple universal approval system supported by clear labelling in the car and on the car seats and will only use the ISOFIX fitting mechanism. The seats will also be subject to more rigorous testing including side impact.

All new vehicles as of 2013 will have i-size ready ISOFIX mechanisms as standard. This means that any i-size seat will fit into any car, regardless of make or design meaning choosing will be easier, fitting will be simple and children will be safer.

**Please note:** current regulations will continue to remain in place until 2018, so, until then, you are able to choose a car seat based on current regulation or the new 'i-size' regulation. In other words the regulation marking of ECE-R44 currently shown on all legally produced child car seats will continue in tandem with i-size until approximately 2018.

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