



IDENTIFY:

SUPPORTING MINIBUS & COACH USE

Minibuses and Coaches

The use of coaches or minibuses to away matches or events can reduce a club's carbon footprint, build bonds within teams and provide a more convenient solutions for parents and guardians. Here are some simple ideas for clubs interested in organising minibuses or coaches for their travelling teams.

Consult club members

- Minibus and coaches can be a great option for younger teams and can be convenient for parents and guardians. Consult parents and guardian to establish whether they would support bus transport

Consider Community Bus Share

- Enquire locally about community organisations that have a minibus. Community organisations that use their minibuses during the weekend might not have need for it in the evenings or at weekends and a sharing agreement could benefit both them and the club.

Contact Bus Companies

- If the club is committed to repeated bus use throughout the year, contact local bus companies about the possibilities, details and advantages of season-long agreements.

Check in with mentors

- Team bus travel can contribute to team morale and bonding. Talk to team mentors to establish whether shared bus transport is something they would like to try with their team and identify the relevant fixtures.

Make sure it's safe

- When hiring a bus, make sure it is safe and roadworthy. See <https://cvrt.ie/en/about-cvrt/pages/hiring-a-bus-make-sure-it-is-safe.aspx> for guidance
- Ensure all insurance and licenses are appropriate and in-date.

Ensure safeguarding measures are in place

- Enlist the support and advice of the club Children's Officer to ensure child safeguarding measures are fully adhered to at all times.

Combine with active travel

- Ensure there is adequate bike parking in your club to support members cycling to the club to get the bus.
- If your bus departs from a regular pick-up point, consider choosing an area where there is secure bike parking nearby. If there is no secure local bike parking, contact your local authority point of contact (see <https://learning.gaa.ie/greenclub>)

