

Wheelchair User

Please note these are general strategies

EACH BOY IS UNIQUE

It is therefore important to speak to his parent(s) to gain individual relevant information.

Useful Website

www.wheelchairnet.org

For further information on this issue please contact:

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GENERAL INFORMATION LEAFLET

Basic Facts for Leaders

Wheelchair User



Dis
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NORTHERN IRELAND

Before Giving Help

ALWAYS TALK TO THE WHEELCHAIR USER

ASK THE BOY ABOUT —

- Special requirements
- Personalised problems
- Other needs or wishes

- When moving a wheel chair user, always make sure there is assistance.

Safety Guidelines

ALWAYS REMEMBER TO —

- 1 Ask the boy how he prefers to be moved
- 2 Check the position of his legs, feet and arms to prevent injury. Put feet on footrests
- 3 Use both hands to ensure safe control and balance
- 4 Avoid rough handling, rushing or quick turns
- 5 Keep an eye for other boys and hazards
- 6 Always treat the person with respect:
 - Be aware of his needs
 - Always kneel or stoop so you're at the same eye level when talking!
 - Tell the boy what you are doing
 - Position the chair so that he can participate in activity
- 7 Apply brakes at proper times, i.e. waiting or resting lifting leaving chair unattended



Useful Strategies

REMEMBER NEVER TO —

- 1 Tip the chair forward or too far back
- 2 Lift the chair by the armrests
- 3 Force a chair to move, if stuck
- 4 Lift the boy unless you have been trained to do so

KNOW HOW TO OPERATE THE FOLLOWING —

- Armrests and footrests
- Safety strap or belt
- Folding backrest
- Push handle and lifting point
- Brake(s) and brake lever(s)
- Tipping lever
- Other safety and comfort features, such as cushion