# Logo, company name  Description automatically generatedSUNSHINE COACH

**Application Spring / Summer 2025**

**Before completing the form, please save it to your computer and read the guidelines.**

**Please answer all questions carefully, include any extra information which you think will help us and use a separate sheet of paper if you need more space. Specifications for each of the four current Sunshine Coach models are provided at the end of this form.**

1. **Information about your organisation**

Name of organisation: Address:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Telephone number:  |   |
| Email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  |  |
| Contact name and position held:  |  |
| Type of organisation, e.g. school, club, etc.: |   |
| Date established:  |  |

If your organisation comes under a Local Authority, the NHS, or another controlling body, please give a name and address:

If not, how are you financed?

Does your organisation produce accounts? [ ] YES [ ] NO

**1** SCP:2025

2025

Please provide details of any support group, e.g. PTA, Friends, etc.:

If this application is being made by your support group, please provide contact details:

If you are located in an area with deprivation, please provide information about this:

1. **The children**

Total number of children in your care: Age range: Number of children who need a Sunshine Coach up to and including 19 years of age

Now: In 12 months’ time:

Describe/list in detail the children’s disabilities and/or any disadvantage (use additional sheets if necessary):

Are any of the children resident and if so, how many?: How many wheelchair users do you have?

Now: In 12 months’ time:

How many children must always travel in their wheelchairs?:

## How the coach will be used

Please describe **in detail** why you need a Sunshine Coach and how you would use it:

How many days a week and how many weeks per year would the coach be used?:

Please give an estimate of yearly mileage envisaged: If an additional coach is being requested, why is this needed now?:

## Type of coach requested

Please indicate which type of coach would best meet your requirements (refer to page 8 for coach specifications). Place note that you can apply for a maximum of 2 coaches at a time:

[ ] Fiat 35 Maxi 14 seater minibus

[ ] Fiat 40 Maxi 17 seater minibus *(+Requires the driver to hold a valid D1 license or passed their test before Jan 1997)*

[ ] Fiat 35 Maxi 13 seater with fixed tail lift and removable seats

[ ] Fiat 40 Maxi 17 seater with fixed tail lift and removable seats *(\*17 TL Requires the driver to hold a valid D1 license or passed their test before Jan 1997)*

**\*Please note: in order to drive a 17 seater minibus (with or without a tail lift), you must have passed your driving test before 1st January 1997 or you must be in possession of a D1 licence category. If you hold a car driving licence and meet certain conditions, you might be able to drive other types of minibuses we provide.**

**For further information please refer to** [**Driving a minibus - GOV.UK**](https://www.gov.uk/driving-a-minibus) **and** [**Driving school minibuses - Advice for schools - GOV.UK**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/driving-school-minibuses-advice-for-schools-and-local-authorities)

## Existing transport

If your children are not resident, how do they get to you?:

What local transport is available?:

Is this your first application for a Sunshine Coach? [ ] YES [ ] NO

Is this application because (tick one box):

 [ ]  You have a Sunshine Coach that needs replacement?

 [ ]  You need to replace a coach not obtained from Variety?

 [ ]  You need an additional coach?

 [ ]  You do not have any coaches?

If you have one or more existing coaches, please give the following details for each vehicle (use a separate sheet if necessary):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunshine Coaches** | **1st vehicle** | **2nd vehicle** | **3rd vehicle** | **4th vehicle** |
| **Registration number** |  |  |  |  |
| **Make/type** |  |  |  |  |
| **Year of registration** |  |  |  |  |
| **Current mileage** |  |  |  |  |
| **Is there a tail lift?** |  |  |  |  |
| **Sponsor (if known)** |  |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Other coaches** | **1st vehicle** | **2nd vehicle** | **3rd vehicle** | **4th vehicle** |
| **Registration number** |  |  |  |  |
| **Make/type** |  |  |  |  |
| **Year of registration** |  |  |  |  |
| **Current mileage** |  |  |  |  |
| **Is there a tail lift?** |  |  |  |  |
| **Sponsor (if known)** |  |  |  |  |

If a replacement is being requested, which vehicle (give registration number) is to be replaced and why is the vehicle no longer usable?:

## VAT

What is your VAT status? VAT RELIEF (CAN CLAIM BACK)[ ]  VAT EXEMPT[ ]  PAYING VAT[ ]

VAT is chargeable on the purchase of the vehicle; if you are VAT registered you might be entitled to recover it. Do you know if you will be entitled to recover VAT incurred on the purchase of a vehicle?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [ ] YES | [ ] NO |

If you are unable to recover the VAT, do you have an associated body or organisation

that would be eligible to reclaim the VAT should it choose to make the purchase the vehicle for your use?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [ ] YES | [ ] NO |

* **Please note any VAT payments, if not exempt or if you can reclaim it back MUST be budgeted by yourself to pay the supplier once you are ready to receive your coach. If exempt proof will need to be provided. VAT will be a percentage of the full cost of the vehicle, and not on your contribution.**

## Contribution

|  |
| --- |
| We ask for a contribution towards your coach, this equals 35% of the coach cost. (Please note these costs may increase over time due to increased costs in the supply chain, components and manufacturing)We ask that all applications are submitted on the most up to date application form to avoid any confusion or misunderstanding)**Current Contribution Amounts:** |
| 14 seater minibus | **£17,631** |
| 17 seater minibus | **£18,725** |
| 13 seater conversion with a tail lift | **£19,474** |
| 17 seater conversion with a tail lift | **£20,935** |

#### We would recommend carrying out some fundraising activities to support with the contribution costs, Variety offer some suggestions here: <https://www.variety.org.uk/get-involved/fundraising-resources/>

#### We also recommend that any SEND settings applying who may have a shortfall could apply for additional funds from the Clothworkers Foundation, who help with grants for SEND settings requiring equipment ,more information can be found here: <https://www.clothworkersfoundation.org.uk>/

**How much are you able to contribute towards your coach?: £** Is this money available now? [ ] YES [ ] NO

**Please note that VAT is payable on the purchase of the vehicle. If you are unable to reclaim this VAT from HM Revenue and Customs, e.g. if you are a registered charity, this will be a cost which in addition to the donation amount, we will ask that you take into consideration.**

Have you approached your Local Authority or another source to help fund your donation? If so, whom and with what result?:

## Other questions

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Have you been involved with Variety before? E.g. for outings, visits, events etc. | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| If YES, who is/was your Variety Liaison Officer?:  |  |  |
| If you had a Sunshine Coach, would you: |  |  |
| Provide qualified driver’s? | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| ***A driver must hold a full UK license and be at least 21 years of age*** |  |  |
| Provide secure garage or parking? | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| Ensure that the vehicle is serviced and maintained according to the |  |  |
| manufacturer’s recommendations? | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| Keep the vehicle taxed and comprehensively insured? | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| Ensure that the original artwork is not defaced, added to or changed in |  |  |
| anyway and always replaced following any bodywork repairs? | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |

How will you fund the coach running costs, service, maintenance, tax and insurance?:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Insurer:  |  |
| Comprehensive? | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |  |
| Annual premium (if known): £  |  |
| Part of a Group Scheme? | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |  |
| Would you be interested in Variety’s recommended Sunshine Coach insurance provider (James Hallam)? [ ] YES [ ] NO |  |
|  |  |
| Existing Sunshine Coach user |  | Internet |  |
| Saw a Sunshine Coach on the road | Other:  |  |

**PLEASE CONFIRM THAT THE FOLLOWING POINTS ARE UNDERSTOOD AND WILL BE ADHERED TO**

**IMPORTANT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Your Sunshine Coach will only be used by children up to the physical age of |  |  |
| nineteen who are disabled or have other difficulties as described in section 2 of |  |  |
| this form, together with the necessary adult attendants | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| Your Sunshine Coach will only be used by your organisation and no one else | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| Under no circumstances must a coach be disposed of without written approval |  |  |
| from the Sunshine Coach Office in London (this includes vehicles written off as a |  |  |
| result of an accident) | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| Should a new coach be supplied, you will immediately start to raise money for |  |  |
| the donation towards the next replacement coach | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Signage on your Sunshine coach should not be removed unless the coach is being auctioned or sent for scrap | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |
| If for any reason the coach is no longer required by the beneficiary responsibility  |  |  |
| and ownership will revert back to Variety the Children’s Charity who will decide on the next steps  | [ ] YES | [ ] NO |

### We will not consider any application for a replacement vehicle where an existing Sunshine Coach shows evidence of abuse and/or neglect, particularly where major damage has not been repaired. Therefore, please ensure that the vehicle to be replaced is in good condition when you receive a visit from us.

1. **At the end of the coach’s useful life, we will ask that you donate the vehicle back to Variety as a gift. We will then arrange a collection and organise its disposal. Where an organisation wishes to trade in or dispose of the vehicle prior to the end of its useful life, Variety request that 70% of any funds acquired through sale or disposal are donated to the Charity. Please note that you will need to claim your 30% within a month of the old coach being auctioned by contacting Variety.**
2. **We cannot guarantee to replace a Sunshine Coach at the end of its life.**
3. **All vehicles supplied by Variety are built to the manufacturer’s specifications as passenger carrying vehicles. Government Transport Regulations prohibit the use of these vehicles for carrying passengers for hire or reward and therefore the entire expenses of any journey must be met by the users of the vehicle. The passengers must not contribute in any way as the vehicle will then be deemed for hire or reward and prosecution may follow.**
4. **a) All Sunshine Coaches are fitted with M2 seats with lap and diagonal inertia reel seatbelts. All vehicles run on diesel.**

**b) Full vehicle specifications are provided at the end of this form.**

**Please sign this application form below & to agree with all guidance and terms.**

Signed (if returning by post): Signed (if returning by email, please check the box): 󠄀 [ ]

#### Please note: by checking this box you are signing the document electronically. It is equivalent to your handwritten signature

Position held: Print name: Date:

If you agree to receive communications from Variety, the Children’s Charity and Variety Events Ltd please tick the box [ ]

Please return to:

**Sunshine Coaches Programme**

**Variety, the Children’s Charity, 93 Bayham Street, London, NW1 0AG**

or email: **coaches@variety.org.uk**

Tel: 020 7428 8100

Fax: 020 7428 8111

**Additional Requirements**

**Please be aware that we will require evidence that you have the following documents in place for your setting to be considered:**

* **Public Liability Insurance**
* **Safeguarding Policy**
* **Equality and Diversity Policy**

***Please confirm by signature that you have these in place and that if requested you could provide a copy of each.***

**Signed: (Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**



Registered charity in England and Wales (209259) and Scotland (SC038505)

# SUNSHINE COACH

Specifications

**14 Seat Minibus**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Make/model** | Fiat 35 Maxi LWB HR |
| 14 seat Minibus Conversion, M2 Floor |
| **Engine** | Euro VI |
| **Gearbox** | 6 Speed |
| **Seating capacity** | 14 (Inc. driver) |
| **Colour** | Blue |
| **Dimensions** | External length | 5998 mm |
| Overall height | 2524 mm |
| Rear width | 2050 mm |
| Overall width | 2400 mm (inc. mirrors) |
| GVW | 3500 kg |

All seats are M2 tested & fitted with lap/diagonal belts

All buses are fitted with Fire Extinguisher & First Aid Kit, 2 x School Bus Signs Immobiliser fitted as standard

**13 Seat Welfare Bus with a Tail-lift**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Make/model** | Fiat 35 Maxi LWB HR |
| 13 Seat Welfare Conversion, M2 Floor |
| **Engine** | Euro VI |
| **Gearbox** | 6 Speed |
| **Seating capacity** | 13 (Inc. driver) |  |
| With option to remove some seats to facilitate a maximum of 3 wheelchairs. At |
| this full capacity, 2 seats plus the driver’s seat and 3 seats in the rear remain in the |
| vehicle |  |
| **Colour** | Blue |
| **Dimensions** | External length | 5998 mm |
| Overall height | 2524 mm |
| Rear width | 2050 mm |
| Overall width | 2400 mm (inc. mirrors) |
| GVW | 4250 kg |
| **Seating** | All seats are fitted with lap/diagonal belts |
| 3 x Unwin Quattro Combine Unit (wheelchair and occupant restraint) |
| **Wheelchair access** | RUL35AW Automatic Under Floor Lift with Bumper step |

All buses are fitted with 2 x Fire Extinguishers, First Aid Kit, 2 x School Bus Signs Immobiliser fitted as standard

Tacograph fitted as standard

**9** SCP 2025

## 17 Seat Minibus

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Make/model** | Fiat 40 Maxi LWB XLB HR |
| 17 Seat Minibus Conversion M2 Floor |
| **Engine** | Euro VI |
| **Gearbox** | 6 Speed |
| **Seating capacity** | 17 (Inc. driver) |
| **Colour** | Blue |
| **Dimensions** | External length | 6363 mm |
| Overall height | 2524 mm |
| Rear width | 2050 mm |
| Overall width | 2400 mm (inc. mirrors) |
| GVW | 4005 kg |

All seats are M2 tested & fitted with lap/diagonal belts

All buses are fitted with Fire Extinguisher & First Aid Kit, 2 x School Bus Signs Immobiliser fitted as standard

Tacograph fitted as standard

## 17 Seat Welfare Bus with a Tail-lift

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Make/model** | Fiat 40 Maxi LWB HR XLB |
| 17 Seat Welfare Conversion, M2 Floor |
| **Engine** | Euro VI |
| **Gearbox** | 6 Speed |
| **Seating capacity** | 17 (Inc. driver) |  |
| With option to remove some seats to facilitate a maximum of 4 wheelchairs. At |
| this full capacity, 2 seats plus the driver’s seat and 3 seats in the rear remain in the |
| vehicle |  |
| **Colour** | Blue |
| **Dimensions** | External length | 6363 mm |
| Overall height | 2524 mm |
| Rear width | 2050 mm |
| Overall width | 2400 mm (inc. mirrors) |
| GVW | 4170 kg |
| **Seating** | All seats are fitted with lap/diagonal belts |
| 4 x Unwin Quattro Combine Unit (wheelchair and occupant restraint) |
| **Wheelchair access** | RUL35AW Automatic Under Floor Lift |

All buses are fitted with 2 x Fire Extinguishers, First Aid Kit, 2 x School Bus Signs Immobiliser fitted as standard

Tacograph fitted as standard

Should you require any further information or assistance, please contact the

**Sunshine Coaches Programme** Email: coaches@variety.org.uk Website: [www.variety.org.uk](http://www.variety.org.uk/)

Tel: 020 7428 8100

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**10** SCP2025