



Category D1 Minibus Training

Minibuses with up to 16 passenger seats

Category D1 covers minibuses with no more than 16 passenger seats, a maximum length of 8 metres and a trailer up to 750 kg. The correct entitlement and Driver CPC route depend on how the vehicle will be used.

Who this may suit

- ✓ School, community, charity and care-sector drivers
- ✓ People who need a vocational D1 entitlement for their role
- ✓ Drivers checking older licence entitlements and restrictions

What the training covers

- ✓ Passenger-vehicle safety checks and preparation
- ✓ Minibus control, observation and passenger-aware driving
- ✓ Manoeuvring and preparation for the relevant DVSA tests

Plan your route

GS DRIVER TRAINING

- 1 Check whether Category D1 is already shown on your licence and note any restrictions.
- 2 Confirm whether provisional entitlement, a D4 medical and PCV theory tests apply.
- 3 Explain whether the driving will be commercial, voluntary, educational or personal.
- 4 Select a practical course after an experience and readiness discussion.
- 5 Complete the relevant tests and confirm whether Driver CPC is required for the intended work.

Important

There are exemptions and permit arrangements for some non-commercial minibus use. Do not assume that holding a car licence automatically covers every D1 journey. Check the current rules for the exact use.

D1 or Category D?

D1 is for minibuses within the official seat and length limits. Larger buses and coaches require Category D. Tell the training team what vehicle you expect to drive.

Talk to the training team

We can help you check the correct licence route and choose an appropriate course before you book.

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Official guidance and course information

Licence categories: <https://www.gov.uk/driving-licence-categories>

Becoming an HGV or bus driver: <https://www.gov.uk/become-lorry-bus-driver>

GS Driver Training course page: <https://gsdrivertraining.com/course/d1-minibus-training>

Information checked 7 September 2026. Licence and Driver CPC requirements depend on individual circumstances and can change. Check your driving-licence entitlements and current GOV.UK guidance before booking.

Training centre: Unit 508, Dunsfold Park, Stovolds Hill, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8TB