

Use these tips to supplement organisational guidance on wheelchair usage. With coronavirus in mind, you should follow your employer's, and your government's or executive's current guidance to reduce the risk of spreading the virus when using a wheelchair.

- Everyone's sight loss experience is different. Some people will require more support than others.
- Introduce yourself, what you do and ask them what assistance they may require.
- If supporting someone to a wheelchair, show them its dimensions by placing their hand on the back, base and arms. Then allow them to sit independently.
- Point out consistent areas throughout the guiding journey, allowing the person to build up a mental picture of their surroundings.
- Advise when turning, by saying left turn or right turn. This can be reinforced by tapping the corresponding shoulder.
- Advise if using a lift or ramp and say if going up or down.
- Warn the person when going backwards. Only move backwards when necessary e.g. being guided down a ramp or kerb.
- Let the person know when they have reached their destination and if you have applied the brakes.

Sight Loss  
Advice Service

**We're here for everyone affected by sight loss.**

Get in touch with us on **0303 123 9999** or visit [rnib.org.uk/advice](https://www.rnib.org.uk/advice)