FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LONDON, 15th October 2026

RideTandem acquires StudentSafe to deliver over 5 million journeys a year

RideTandem, which provides fully managed commuter and education transport, today announced that it is joining forces with StudentSafe, the education transport specialists. Following its acquisition by RideTandem, StudentSafe becomes the education arm of the RideTandem group, keeping its name, its team and its focus on schools.

The combined group will provide fully managed transport across both of its markets: commuting services for employers and home-to-school transport for schools. Together, the two businesses will work to deliver over 5 million passenger journeys a year.

Every one of those is a shared journey, often replacing an individual car trip and reducing congestion and emissions around workplaces and schools.

StudentSafe brings a strong, established education brand, working with over 40 schools across England, Scotland and Wales. RideTandem brings scale in commuter transport, a national operator network and an in-house engineering team. StudentSafe founder Mathew Hassell continues in a consultancy role.

Two businesses, one approach

RideTandem's roots are in commuting and StudentSafe's are in education, but the fit between the two is unusually close.

Both run fully managed services, and for the same reason: these are journeys that can't go wrong. A late or missing vehicle means staff who can't get to work, or pupils who can't get to school. So both companies design routes around what passengers actually need, contract with networks of independent local operators, and staff live operations teams that deal with delays, no-shows and safeguarding issues as they happen.

That shared approach is one of the reasons StudentSafe's operations, customer success and safeguarding teams remain in place, and why their expertise will shape how the group delivers education transport.

What it means for schools

For schools, day-to-day service continues as before. StudentSafe keeps its name, its team and its exclusive focus on schools, and schools will continue to work with the team they know. StudentSafe will keep helping schools reduce costs, run transport more efficiently, support admissions and cut the number of cars at the school gates.

Being part of the RideTandem group gives StudentSafe access to RideTandem's data science expertise, in-house product team and wider operator network. It can also draw on

the back-office systems that already support RideTandem's services at scale. Together, these will help StudentSafe optimise routes and services even further, while keeping quality consistently high for schools and their families.

Alex Shapland-Howes, CEO and co-founder, RideTandem
"We're really pleased to be joining forces with StudentSafe. Whether it's staff getting to work or children getting to school, these are journeys where reliability really matters, which is why both businesses take responsibility for every journey from end to end. StudentSafe has built an excellent reputation with schools, and we're looking forward to supporting the team as it continues to grow."

Mathew Hassell, founder, StudentSafe
"I'm delighted to see StudentSafe enter the next chapter of its story under the stewardship of RideTandem. RideTandem shares the same ethos as StudentSafe in recognising the power of transport to drive an organisation's success, whether that be in the commercial or education sector. With the alignment of vision and values, StudentSafe is well placed to thrive in the years ahead."

ENDS

Notes to editors

Alex Shapland-Howes, CEO and co-founder of RideTandem, is available for interview on the combined commuting and education offer and the state of the UK managed transport market. Please contact Paula Sandiford (paulasandiford@studentsafe.com or Brooke Curtis (brookecurtis@studentsafe.com) to arrange.

About RideTandem
RideTandem provides fully managed commuting and education transport for employers and schools across the UK, from shift-based sites to office headquarters. Its services are supported by its own technology, a live operations team and a national network of independent coach, minibus and taxi operators, who also have access to RideTandem's technology to help run their own services. RideTandem is the trading name of CollectiveTech Ltd. https://www.ridetandem.com/

About StudentSafe
StudentSafe is the education transport specialist, providing fully managed home-to-school transport for over 40 schools across England, Scotland and Wales. Founded in 2021, it is now part of the RideTandem group. https://studentsafe.com/