

Safer journeys thanks to new travel seat

■ by **Juliet Perry**

juliet.perry@trbeckett.co.uk

A YOUNG girl from Eastbourne can travel safely thanks to a £1,000 car seat from children's charity React.

Aimee Baker, pictured, from Hampden Park, was diagnosed with the severe epileptic condition Dravet's Syndrome when she was nine-months old but at four-months-old she suffered the first of many severe and prolonged epileptic seizures.

Aimee's mother Marie Baker cares for five-year-old Aimee and her sister Katie, seven, with her husband Martin.

Marie said, "Aimee's first seizure was completely out of the blue and it was terrifying.

"It lasted 45 minutes but felt like a lifetime and prior to this there were absolutely no signs at all that this would happen to our beautiful little girl."

Since then Aimee has endured regular epileptic seizures and also has learning difficulties, limited mobility and needs to be tube fed.

The Baker family contacted React, a national children's charity which provides a wide range of equipment and support to families caring for life-limited children because they needed a specialist car seat for Aimee.

"At the time of applying she had nearly outgrown her old car seat and on the occasions, when we tried her with a booster seat, she would always wriggle out as she has no sense of danger.

"As you can imagine this was extremely dangerous, especially



when driving down the motorway and even more of a worry if Aimee had a seizure when not safely secured. The thought of this happening, particularly if me or Martin were driving on our own, really meant it was essential that we found her a suitable car seat

as soon as possible."

However, at a cost of more than £1,000 the only suitable specialist car seat was beyond the family's means and after being informed the council was unable to fund the item, the family contacted React.