Contents

Introduction
Aims and Objectives
Partnership Working
Planning
Teaching Resources
Introduction

Improving the road safety of children and young people in Lancashire is a priority. There is a need for all those involved with young children to teach clear road safety messages effectively and consistently, working together to help young children begin to understand and take the first steps towards managing risk.

Effective road safety education and training for children should always be part of a relevant, planned and progressive programme starting before birth and taking children and young people through to adulthood and independent road use. Learning to stay safe as a passenger, a pedestrian or a cyclist are complex tasks. Early years practitioner’s ranging from children’s centre staff, outreach early years practitioners, family based childminders and partner organisations all contribute to help children master these tasks.
Aims and Objectives

Aim
To contribute to reducing child casualties across Lancashire, especially those killed and seriously injured in 0-5 age group and to fill the gap in provision for this target group.

Objectives
• Increase road safety knowledge of children centre practitioners, childminders, partners, parents/carers and children.
• Enable partners and professionals to deliver road safety education, advice and training in the most effective manner.
• Enable partners and professionals to deliver in a structured format against EYFS guidelines.
• Provide parents with road safety knowledge to be able to transfer skills to children at an early age.
• Increase provision of Road safety education for children.

The Little Safety Stars toolkit will provide:
• Information and statistics detailing the casualty profile within Lancashire.
• Assessment, planning and evaluation tools to implement Road safety education.
• Evidence for OfSTED.
• Teaching resources and ideas to implement planned and progressive road safety education.
• Communities with information to keep children and families safe.
• A way of communicating key road safety messages to parents/carers.

The Little Safety Stars toolkit is presented in two parts:
1. Little Safety Stars a guide for Road Safety for children's centre practitioners, childcare providers, health professionals and partners
2. Little Safety Stars a A5 guide for Road Safety for health professionals, parents, carers and partner organisations who work with this target group and families. Ideal to be used at the 8 month development checks.
Despite large reductions in deaths and serious injuries, accidents on the roads are still the biggest killer of children of all ages on UK roads.

- Children and young people’s casualties have been reducing in Lancashire over the last few years, however they still are higher than any of us would wish. The casualty profile across Lancashire varies quite considerably with some areas having specific problems with casualties ranging from 0-5 years, whilst in other areas there are casualty problems with young people 16+
- There is an established link between road safety and areas of disadvantage, in particular for pedestrian casualties. Child pedestrian casualties are five times higher in the 10% of most deprived areas in Great Britain compared to the 10% of least deprived areas. Reasons for this include the nature of the environment, with higher density housing, more housing on or near main roads, more need to cross main roads to get to school and other local facilities, lack of play areas for children, housing that opens directly on to the street and more parked cars on residential streets. Cultural and social factors also play a part.
- The Department for Transport (DfT) Strategic Framework for Road Safety outlines the importance of road safety education by developing the necessary skills and attitudes to stay safe on the roads.
- It is not therefore a one off process, introducing road safety education at an early age will underpin road safety skills for young children. The Right Start Child Pedestrian Training Programme is available to all schools in Lancashire as research shows that it provides longevity in road safety. These skills will provide a solid road safety foundation for their knowledge, understanding and behaviour as adults.

Lancashire’s Casualty Picture

For child casualty statistics across Lancashire please visit [www.saferschools.lancsgfl.ac.uk](http://www.saferschools.lancsgfl.ac.uk) and go to the parents section.
Sure Start Early Years Child Care Services (SSEYCCS) have been working in partnership with Lancashire County Council Road and Transport Safety and Lancashire Children’s Centres towards all families receiving road safety education, with the message being reinforced throughout the year.

This has contributed towards improved outcomes for children and a consistent approach to centre / locality planning, monitoring and evaluation.

To support professional development a series of road safety awareness workshops were held across the county in 2009/2010. The sessions were delivered in partnership with Early Years practitioners and Road and Transport Safety, and involved:

- Local data
- In car safety
- Examples of best practice
- Supporting your community
- Small Journeys toolkit
- Children’s First Resource Centre/ Road safety aids

Key issues from the workshop awareness sessions emerged:

- Car seats and the law
- In-car safety (car seats)
- Safety inside the car (never leave children alone)
- Carrying children safely on public transport and taxis
- Children in and around cars
- Children crawling out of homes into the road
- Parental road safety advice
Many agencies locally have an interest in promoting and supporting road safety education and awareness for young children. Here are some you may want to work with, or who may approach you with opportunities for children and parents to learn about becoming a safer road user.

- Lancashire County Council Road & Transport Safety (RTS)
- Lancashire Constabulary Community Beat Officers
- Police Community Support Officer’s (PCSO)
- Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service (LFRS)
- Lancashire Healthy Schools Programme (LHSP)
- Local Community Safety Partnerships (LCSP)
- Health Partners
- Primary Schools
- Early Years Childcare Providers
- Other prospective partners

All of these organisations will have valuable ideas and resources to share with you and will want to work with you and your colleagues in a planned and sustainable way.

The Role of Partners

Partners play a key role in the community, for example giving a supporting role in schools delivering road safety talks, delivering assemblies on “Be Safe Be Seen” in the winter months, discussing safe places to cross and staying safe by the road side, talks on in-car safety and road safety presentations during road safety weeks.

Working in partnership with other organisations is an important issue for local councils, police forces, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, health authorities and NHS trusts.

Partnership working is a potentially powerful tool for tackling difficult policy and operational problems that local agencies face. It can also be a productive way of achieving more efficient and effective use of resources.

In addition there are many national organisations that have a range of support resources please see useful Information and links at the end of the document for further details.
Social & Emotional
• Sociable and want to be ‘where the action is’
• See themselves as ‘big boys’ or ‘big girls’ and want to do things by themselves
• Are all different, so what works with one may not work with another

Physical
• Fast and can quickly move from safety into danger
• Small and difficult for drivers to see, especially behind a reversing vehicle
• Reflexes and reactions still developing so stopping can take longer
• Fragile so injuries are likely to be severe

Cognitive
• Curious and keen to explore and learn about their surroundings
• Limited understanding of ‘danger’ and what to do to keep safe.
• Understand cause and effect when in traffic differently to adults.
• Understanding of sound and direction and what these mean still developing
• Ability to judge speed and distance of moving vehicles still developing
• Interpret what they see in their peripheral vision differently to adults
• Can say safety words and slogans but not yet able to apply then independently
• Inexperienced as road users and confused by sudden changes in traffic environment

Children’s behaviour can’t be explained in terms of just one development area. It is the interaction of the cognitive, social/emotional and physical aspects of their development that puts children at risk in the traffic environment.
Planning

This toolkit is designed to complement the Lancashire Healthy Schools Programme which works with early years provision, schools and the local community to help children and young people understand how to enjoy a safe and healthy lifestyle.

The aim of Little Safety Stars toolkit is to help children to ‘Stay Safe’ by introducing road safety education to the under 5’s and their families.

To help you with planning the following tools in this document can be used.

- EYFS links to road safety, learning and development
- EYFS Road safety action planning cycle
- Road safety planning timeline
- EYFS Road safety action plan

There is no replacement for the parent as a role model. However, this toolkit is designed to reach parents by working with pre-schools, nurseries, childminders, children’s centre sessions, one to one family support work, health visitors, midwife and Police Community Support Officer’s (PCSO).

The Little Safety Stars toolkit focuses work with children and young people by following the seven areas of EYFS areas of learning and development.

1. Communication and Language
2. Physical Development
3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding of the World
7. Expressive Arts and Design

To assist you in achieving the EYFS areas of learning and development outcomes the road safety activity cards can be found in the teaching resources section.
Four Key Priorities of the Early Years Foundation Stage:

- Play is at the heart of the EYFS, children need to play in order to have fun and in order to begin to understand the world around them
- Welfare and safety of children is paramount
- Parents should be kept up to date with what their children are doing in childcare settings and encouraged to get involved as much as possible

Each child should be allocated a key member of staff and should be encouraged but allowed to develop at their own pace and in their own way.

Road safety education will take different forms in different settings. In planning to incorporate road safety, account should be taken of the immediate environment of the children and families in your community setting.

EYFS links to Road Safety topics

Areas of Learning and Development

1. Communication and Language
2. Physical Development
3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding of the World
7. Expressive Arts and Design
To assist in the planning stage it is recommended that childrens’ centres and early years providers, of children and young people, adopt the approach shown in the model below. Following a proactive approach to road safety by encompassing all eight stages would result in the delivery of effective road safety education. Use the EYFS Road Safety Action Plan form on the following page to start the planning cycle process by following these eight stages.

1. Carry out an annual Road Safety assessment
2. Assess individual children and families needs
3. Establish priorities with input from parents and the community
4. Identify key staff roles & communicate with all involved especially parents
5. Detemine interventions in response to identified needs
6. Incorporate actions into planning mechanisms
7. Use learning resources available
8. Evaluate

EYFS Road Safety Action Planning cycle
## Action Plans within your own Working Environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Specific Actions</th>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Evaluate &amp; Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carry out an annual road safety assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess individual children’s and families needs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish priorities with input from parents and the community</td>
<td>Identify key staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify key staff roles &amp; communicate with all involved especially</td>
<td>parents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determine interventions in response to identified needs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incorporate actions into planning mechanisms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use learning resources available</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Road Safety Planning Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning</th>
<th>MONTH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carry out an annual safety assessment and audit actions</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess individual children and families needs</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(New pre-school children's intake)</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light nights and outdoor play</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPT week</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THINK! Road safety week</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday periods, children playing in driveways</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRAKE Road Safety week</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn Be Bright Be Seen</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate road safety delivery</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-assess resources</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following can be implemented throughout the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>AMJ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular home communication with families</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buggy safety</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxi information</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-car safety information</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-car safety demonstrations</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see LCC website)</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety gates</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycle safety</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport safety</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider supporting local mosques with marshalling</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use learning resources available</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor and review</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery of Road safety education</td>
<td>AMJ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Lancashire County Council**

[Logo]
Educational Resources Section

- THINK! education themes
- Useful information and links
- Road Safety activity cards
- Home links booklet for parents and carers
- Dear parent letter template
- Road Safety songs
- Traffic light kebabs
- Road Safety quiz and answers (Bump, birth & beyond)

A road safety resource pack is also available to compliment the Little Safety Stars toolkit for practitioners to re-enforce key road safety messages to parents. Practitioners will be able to use the contact details on each resource to order further copies.
The learning materials and ideas in the THINK! education teachers’ notes booklet available online are designed to be used flexibly so that childcare practitioners, teachers, assistants and parents can use them in ways which suit their circumstances and the needs of their children. These can be used as extension activities. The main road safety themes to be covered for the early years age group can be summarised in this diagram:

Please access curriculum-linked road safety lesson ideas for teachers of children aged 3-5 or following the link below:

[www.think.gov.uk/education/age/3-to-6/](http://www.think.gov.uk/education/age/3-to-6/)

Practitioners can help Early Years children relate to and remember these five themes; the following child-friendly labels are used throughout the document:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Child friendly label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic recognition</td>
<td>What’s on the road?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using car seats and wearing seat belts</td>
<td>The car seat click</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to behave near traffic</td>
<td>Keep hold!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop, look and listen</td>
<td>Stop, look and listen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be Bright Be Seen</td>
<td>Bright is right</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction to Activity Cards

The following activity cards contain key road safety messages for practitioners to deliver to parents, carers and children. Activity cards are a guide only so remember to plan into children development plans. Take into consideration the child’s individual needs and requirement.

For use in children’s centres, playgroups, childminder settings or 1:1 activities the cards will link to the following learning and development objectives.

Areas of Learning and Development
The EYFS is made up of seven areas of learning and Development

1. Communication and Language
2. Physical Development
3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding of the World
7. Expressive Arts and Design
Home Link Booklet for parent and carers

The home link booklet is to be used once the centre activity cards have been delivered; the booklet is designed for parents and carers to reinforce key road safety messages at home, linking to the following learning and development objectives.

Key messages:
- Holding Hands
- Stop
- Look
- Listening
- Travelling Safely
Dear Parent

Your child has been learning how to be a Little Safety Star.

I am sure you are aware, young children should always be accompanied by an adult when near roads and it is requested that you reinforce what they have learnt when out and about with your children.

It may be helpful to discuss the following checklist when at the roadside:

When out in the traffic environment:
- Always hold on to yours or an adult hand that they know
- Recognise the road, the pavement, the kerb
- Stop and wait behind the kerb before crossing the road
- Remember to look and listen for traffic and understand that they should only cross when the road is clear
- Always walk on the inside and away from traffic with a grown-up they know well
- Wear bright clothing during dark conditions
- Always play away from traffic

Lancashire County Council
Useful Information and Links

Please find links to internet sites below that provide information, ideas and activities for young people and parents/carers.

www.think.gov.uk/
Road safety advice with campaigns, downloads and posters, leaflets which can be ordered.

www.think.gov.uk/education
Lesson plans, videos, games and other resources for early years and above.

www.lhs.org.uk
Lancashire Healthy Schools website aims to provide information for all the partners working together for the benefit of children and young people.

www.protectchild.co.uk
A guide that offers good sound practical advice about buying, choosing and fitting a car seat. It is a must for all parents, grandparents and great grandparents.

www.capt.org.uk
The Child Accident Prevention Trust’s website features important campaign information on this national charity.

www.highways.gov.uk
The Highways Agency is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network in England. A wealth of information is shared on this website including cycling, pedestrians, working with communities, statistics, planning a journey and traffic information.

www.rospa.co.uk
The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents’ website has a good road safety section including advice for parents and teachers.

www.i-size.org.uk
I-size is the new legislation which increases the safety level for children in cars and will make longer rearward facing and the use of Isofix a new European standard.

www.sustrans.org.uk
Sustrans, the sustainable transport charity, promotes reductions in motor traffic levels. The site includes a ‘safer routes to school’ section and an extensive cyclists’ section.

www.incarsafety.co.uk
Here you will find advice, explanations and demonstrations on how to select the most suitable seat for each child.