Introduction

Most young adults (15 to 19 years) are keen to 'hit the road' as soon as they can. They want to get their Ls or Ps. This is seen to be part of becoming an adult; of gaining their freedom. But a driving licence doesn't just mean freedom. There are risks and responsibilities for both drivers and passengers.

VicRoads recognises the high level of student interest in obtaining a Learner's Permit and a Probationary Driver's Licence but also the need to promote road safety. In funding this resource, VicRoads aims to provide road safety education for young people and to assist in the preparation of young people to enter the road system as safe and responsible drivers.

This resource provides a range of ideas for classroom activities that align to units of the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL), specifically units in Personal Development Skills, Numeracy Skills, Reading and Writing and Oral Communications Skills at VCAL Foundation, Intermediate and Senior levels. The VCAL Road Safety Units are also suitable for use with other groups of young people aged 15 to 19 years, e.g. Years 10, 11 or 12 students, or those enrolled in the Certificates of General Education for Adults.

Road safety context

The Victorian government aims to reduce the number of people seriously injured or killed on Victoria's roads. This is detailed in Victoria's road safety strategy which builds on Victoria's strong road safety record and introduces new actions and targets to save lives, reduce road crashes and improve safety on Victoria's roads.

Victoria's road safety strategy is based on the *Safe System* approach to road safety. This approach recognises the benefits to be gained from an overarching strategy that delivers safer travel through safer vehicles, safer roads and roadsides, and safer road users. The *Safe System* commits the Government to developing a community-wide culture of road safety and to creating a safer road environment across Victoria.

The community, including education providers, has a role to play in the *Safe System* by supporting young people to become safer road users.

The VCAL Road Safety Units have been developed to reflect the *Safe System* approach.

VCAL and road safety

Methodology

VCAL is an educational framework based on applied learning principles such as

- relating theory and practice
- linking educational contexts and learning with 'real life' and the community
- building on student's knowledge and interests
- negotiating content and learning
- providing for different learning styles.

The VCAL Road Safety Units are based on these principles.

vicroads

To support different learning styles, the activities include:

- group work (small and large group)
- individualised learning
- peer learning
- student centred learning
- the integration of skill (or unit) areas which reflect real life scenarios (e.g. where literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills are used simultaneously to address real life problems and situations)
- working with organisations to address problems and issues (e.g. community based partnerships).

A key educational concept underpinning learning is the ability to act as an independent or self-directed learner. This resource supports this concept.

Not all VCAL students are self-directed learners, especially those enrolled at Foundation and Intermediate level. The resource, therefore attempts to accommodate the deliberate development of independent learning skills by the strategies of modelling, scaffolding to effective learning practice through practise and feedback and the encouragement of reflection on learning and assessment.

This resource

There are 11 units in this resource. They cover a range of road safety issues and themes including:

- learner driver experience
- safer road users
- safer roads
- safer cars
- speed
- risks and peer pressure – alcohol and drugs, multiple passengers, fatigue, distractions (mobile phones etc)
- crash statistics.

The units follow the same format and include:

- the name of the VCAL unit and the level covered in the activities
- VCAL learning outcomes
- an overview of the learning activities
- purpose of the Road Safety Unit
- resource requirements
- information for the teacher
- information about using the activity as an assessment task
- sample assessment record sheets
- a description of the activities
- worksheets and handouts for the students.

In addition to the units, a four-page newspaper, *Crash 'n' Burn*, has been developed to support the activities in the units.

How to use the resource

The table at the end of this introduction summarises the content of each unit and of the VCAL units they align to.

The unit *Test your knowledge* is designed to introduce road safety and **does not align directly** to any VCAL unit. The unit may provide you and your students with a starting point to discuss which aspects of road safety they would be interested in investigating.

Other units should be chosen in consultation with the students and to address their learning needs and interests.

Before you begin

Before beginning to use the VCAL Road Safety Units it is important to identify any students who have been involved in a serious crash or who have a friend or family member who has. The content of some of the VCAL Road Safety Units may upset some students and you may need to modify activities in light of this.

VCAL level

The table on the following pages indicates the VCAL level of the Road Safety Units and which VCAL units are covered.

✓ indicates the unit is suitable for the level.

↔ indicates the unit may be modified for use at this level.

The VCAL level is also suggested at the beginning of each unit. However, most units can be modified for use at a higher or lower level and the Extension activities suggested for each unit may provide ideas to help you do this.

Assessment

The activities in the VCAL Road Safety Units have been designed to **support student learning**. The activities align to the learning outcomes listed but may not cover all the assessment criteria. If the activities are to be used as assessment tasks, teachers should check the relevant Curriculum Planning Guide to ensure all assessment criteria or elements are covered.

For each activity, documentation that can be used to build a portfolio of evidence to be used for the assessment of relevant learning outcomes is listed.

Content overview

Unit title	Themes	Foundation					Intermediate					Senior				
		PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num	PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num	PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num
Test your knowledge	A quiz designed to introduce road safety.	Supports the VCAL units but does not align directly to any level or strand.														
Choices	• Identifying options & making choices • Consequences of actions • Identifying & assessing risks • Teamwork skills	✓		✓	✓		↔		✓	✓						
Crash stats	• Awareness & knowledge of factors & causes relating to casualty & fatality crashes • Analysis of numerical information • Research skills						↔		↔		↔	✓	✓			✓
High impact	• Consequences of a fatal crash • Risks & peer pressure • Listening for meaning			↔	↔				✓	✓				↔	↔	

✓ indicates the unit is suitable for the level.   ↔ indicates the unit may be modified for use at this level.

vicroads

Unit title	Themes	Foundation					Intermediate					Senior				
		PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num	PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num	PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num
Keys Please	• Organising & running an event • Teamwork • Learner driver experience		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			↔			
Only a little bit over	• Blood alcohol concentration (BAC) • Drink driving • Numerical infor-mation & data				↔	↔				✓	✓				↔	↔
Road to freedom	• Getting Ls & Ps • Road laws • Learner driver experience • Safer road use	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓						
Safely, safely	• Knowledge of factors & causes of casualty & fatality crashes • Road safety • Research to check information • Listening for meaning • Oral presentation skills		↔	↔	↔		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	

✓ indicates the unit is suitable for the level.   ↔ indicates the unit may be modified for use at this level.

Unit title	Themes	Foundation					Intermediate					Senior				
		PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num	PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num	PDS1	PDS2	R&W	OC	Num
Safety in numbers	• Maths required to be a learner driver • Ability to read & interpret numbers & measurement • Speed & distance • Reading road signs					✓					↔					
What do you think?	• Issues & debates around young drivers and road safety • Formulating & assessing opinions			✓	✓				✓	✓						
Where's the party?	• Alcohol and road safety • Intoxication • Risks and Peer pressure • Decision making • Recognising and assessing risk taking behaviour	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓						

✓ indicates the unit is suitable for the level.　　　　↔ indicates the unit may be modified for use at this level.

Related VCAL resource

The following resource has been mapped to the VCAL curriculum.

Car Costs: a numeracy workbook

by Dave Tout 2006 CAE, Melbourne

A student workbook which aims to develop numeracy skills through the theme of purchasing and driving a car. It includes a chapter about road safety in which students analyse crash statistics and factors such as speed, and drink driving. The car costs content is supported by a comprehensive chapter that covers the maths skills required to undertake the investigations and tasks.

Acronyms

BAC	Blood alcohol concentration
MS Excel / MS PowerPoint / MS Publisher / MS Word	These are registered software products/programs of Microsoft Corporation
RACV	Royal Automobile Club of Victoria
TAC	Transport Accident Commission

Solution to Crossword from *Crash 'n' Burn* Newspaper

Crossword Solution

¹C	A	²S	U	A	³L	T	Y	■	⁴S	K	⁵I	L	⁶L
R	■	A	■	■	I	■	■	■	I	■	M	■	I
A	■	F	■	M	■	⁷A	■	X	■	P	■	C
⁸S	P	E	E	D	I	N	G	■	⁹T	H	R	E	E
H	■	T	■	■	T	■	G	■	E	■	O	■	N

The grid reads:

Row 1: ¹C A ²S U A ³L T Y □ ⁴S K ⁵I L ⁶L
Row 2: R □ A □ □ I □ □ □ I □ M □ I
Row 3: A □ F □ M □ ⁷A □ X □ P □ C
Row 4: ⁸S P E E D I N G □ ⁹T H R E E
Row 5: H □ T □ T □ G □ E □ O □ N
Row 6: □ ¹⁰T Y ¹¹R E □ ¹²T R E E □ ¹³V I C
Row 7: □ O □ A □ □ □ E □ N □ E □ E
Row 8: □ L □ ¹⁴C ¹⁵R O S S □ ¹⁶P □ □ □
Row 9: ¹⁷A L I V E □ ¹⁸S T O P ¹⁹P E ²⁰D
Row 10: M H □ D □ I □ □ ²¹L A □ R
Row 11: ²²B A C ²³K □ ²⁴G I V E W A Y □ I
Row 12: E □ □ M □ O □ E □ □ T □ V
Row 13: ²⁵R U ²⁶S H □ □ ²⁷R □ □ E □ E
Row 14: □ T □ ²⁸P E D E S T R I A N