



The Roadcraft Model

For the past 35 years, Roadcraft has been providing education to road users of all ages. Over this period of time the Roadcraft team of highly experienced and qualified Driver Educators have developed courses, training techniques and systems of response that have a positive impact and are truly effective.

Roadcraft has a long history of introducing and providing quality, risk reduction driving practices and hands-on training to youths, adults and mature aged drivers from across all sectors of the community.

Roadcraft sponsored study tours of similar organisations in Europe, Canada and the USA where the Roadcraft personnel involved were able to identify and introduce training systems and techniques that represent best practice on a global scale. These systems and techniques were then incorporated into courses being provided to participants.

Our primary reason for being is addressing the high risk acceptance of youth that contributes to their over representation in the crash rate.

Our main customer is the Queensland Ambulance Service. We provide the entire driver education program for the state of up to 500 participants a year.

We do it different

Roadcraft provides driver education to schools throughout South East Queensland annually at highly subsidised rates in order to reach as many students as possible.

- One of our more unique points of difference is that we prefer to work with a 4 student to 1 Educator ratio, much lower than most other providers. By working with this lower ratio, learning outcomes are maximised and attitudinal adjustments assured.
- Our second point of difference is that we provide hands on, in the vehicle training where students actually get to use the systems and techniques advocated in a real world environment, over a 2 day course. Once again allowing us to maximise the learning outcomes and adjust the risk acceptance and attitude of students appropriately.
- Our third point of difference is the way in which we apply the learning in all our courses, so that participants become conscious of the human factors of Fixation and Over Reaction that come into play when they become life threatened. We have designed exercises that specifically highlight the human deficiencies they need to be made aware of.

This then leads to a higher understanding and motivates them to discipline themselves to apply the techniques, systems and low risk driving strategies advocated.

We provide learner, provisional and adult courses, as well as corporate caravan, truck and 4x4 courses. There are many more options.

The Roadcraft Education Strategy

Roadcraft has always believed that it is best to start the Road Safety message at an early age. Primary School children travel by bus from schools around SE Queensland to Roadcraft where we introduce them to the Road Safety message in both the class room and then on the purpose built push bike circuit. The focus here is to create a fun environment where they can learn and develop road law understanding, forward observation and peripheral vision awareness as well as the desired hazard identification, special awareness and the appropriate attitude to safety for their environment and age group.

This follows into the Secondary School years where at 15 they can start to attend the Student Driver Courses (SDC) where they are exposed to the limitations of vehicles, humans' limitations, risk awareness, hazard identification and management as well as developing appropriate attitudes and a higher understanding of the role concentration, observation and anticipation play towards becoming safer, more aware and attentive drivers.

The SDC student numbers can range from 16 to 24 at a time. Students are split into groups of 8 representing their individual experience and exposure to driving, where 4 from each group of 8 are in car for a session while the other 4 are in the class room. They then alternate from class room to car each session throughout the course maintaining the in car 4:1 ratio.

So during each session of an SDC with 24 participants, we have 3 cars out on the road circuit, with 4 students and an Educator in each. The other 12 students are in the class room with one Educator delivering the theory component of what is being delivered in the cars.

The course culminates with an intense on road development and assessment session where the new drivers can learn to apply the Low Risk techniques and systems advocated, and get appropriate and relevant feedback immediately. This strategy allows them to achieve the highest possible Low Risk driving ability in order to manage their safety on the road most effectively into the future.

The level of maturity varies considerably in this age group. This is of major concern, so we encourage students to get their Learners licence and then attend the Learner Driver Course or once licenced the Provisional Driver Courses, or both. In both these courses the Low Risk driving systems, techniques and strategies are reinforced in an adult learning environment with more on road development, critique and feedback in order to compound their learning experiences, adjust their risk acceptance, and promote an attitude conducive to safety. This is all done with a balanced mixture of theory and in car practical application under Educator supervision.

The in car education is done with the Roadcraft preferred ratio of 4: 1, once again providing a higher safety management ability and awareness in participants as well as promoting the understanding that they “can control their destiny on the roads, they do have a choice, it is not up to fate alone”.

At Roadcraft we have found that we can change risk acceptance by educating drivers using well thought out and implemented exercises that demonstrate natural tendencies and how inadequate they usually are in emergency situations.

Roadcraft is a member of The Australian College of Road Safety (ACRS). Through this association, we have access to the latest information and trends in road safety.

Roadcraft is now the chosen Industry Partner in a three year Collaborative Research Project with Griffith University, QUT and Department of Transport and Main Roads, researching the efficacy of the Roadcraft model of Driver Education, with a simulator component.

The Facility consists of 57 hectares on the southern outskirts of Gympie, Queensland, easily accessible from the Bruce Highway.

It is a purpose built driver training facility which boasts:

- 2 purpose built Vehicle Dynamic Areas with skid pans (optional wet skid pans) and road circuits
- Bitumen feeder road (for slalom and braking exercises)
- Bitumen secondary circuit training track (with loops, round-a-bout and dips)
- Bicycle training area for primary school students
- 4WD training tracks, creek beds, ascent and decent areas
- Purpose built 4WD water crossing
- 2 air conditioned classrooms with modern large screen televisions, plus
- Air conditioned Auditorium with Data projector and large screen TV
- Commercial grade kitchen (for catering or hospitality training)

- Outdoor eating area (indoor dining upon request)
- Storage shed suitable for training courses such as warehousing and logistics (forklift etc.)
- Space for various types of outdoor training e.g., heavy machinery
- Shade sheds and picnic tables for outdoor activities / education

Aside from the necessary TAE & TLI qualifications, all Roadcraft Driving Educators enjoy the benefits of ongoing internal Roadcraft training and staff development based on the 35 years of industry experience. This training is conducted by our highly qualified and experienced Lead Driver Educator and / or our Operations Coordinator, who have over 25 years combined experience as low risk defensive driver educators.

For a visual of what we do please view the PowerPoint attached or go to our Website where you can access videos showing our courses.

www.roadcraft.org.au