



Road Safety Practitioners Foundation Course

Introduction

In the last 2 decades road safety practice has developed greatly and is now widely recognised as a specialist area of education. The course is recognised by Road Safety GB.

The course will provide the participants with an overview of the whole process from identifying a roads safety issue, to course development and evaluation.

The course is structured around a project and will take the participants through all elements of the project's development. Ideally this project should be real and should be one that the participant is currently working on; if this is not possible the participant will be given a project to develop.

The course has 4 day contact time broken into 2 X 2 day sessions with approximately 5 weeks between. Over this 5 week period the participants will be required to complete an assignment related to the topic covered in the initial 2 days session. Final assignments need to be completed 4 weeks after the final 2 day session. This assignment will form the final assessment..

The course is based on the Road Safety GB Road Safety Practitioners Standard. The Standard Document outlines a road safety practitioner's role as follows:

A Road Safety Practitioner's role is to provide, or facilitate the provision, of road safety education and training that seeks to establish, maintain and adapt personal road user behaviours that maximise safety.

Course Aim

This course aims to deliver the basic skills, knowledge and understanding any person should have prior to delivering a road safety intervention. Road safety education, if not well researched and delivered correctly can have **unintended consequences** that may be

counterproductive post-intervention. Anyone involved in the delivery of road safety education needs to be aware and alert to this danger.

Road Safety education is a highly specialised field and as such practitioners need to have the right blend of knowledge, understanding and abilities to deliver training safely and effectively.

Course overview

The successful completion of this course will provide a road safety practitioner with a basic level of knowledge on the fundamentals of road safety laid out in the Road Safety GB Standards document as units:

- Unit 1: Understanding the wider context of road safety and the need for partnership working
- Unit 2: Design a Learning Programme
- Unit 3: Enable safe and responsible road user behaviour
- Unit 4: Manage safety
- Unit 5: Evaluation

Unit 1 - Prepare, deliver or evaluate a road safety education intervention taking into account the need to work with others within an ethical and legislative framework

The aim of this Unit is to ensure that all Road Safety Practitioners understand the complex interrelationship between the many organisations and individuals that have an interest in road safety and how to work in partnership with them within an ethical and legislative framework. It is important that a Road Safety Practitioner has a working knowledge of the associated issues in order to ensure that these are considered throughout the development, delivery and evaluation of an intervention

This Unit is split into 3 Sub-Units covering:

- Understanding the wider context of road safety and the need for partnership working
- Understand the ethical issues associated with the delivery of road safety education
- Working within a legislative framework

Unit 2 - Design a Learning Programme

In order to ensure that the resources are used in the most efficient manner it is vital that a Road Safety Practitioner is able to use a research based approach. This research based approach should underpin not only the initial identification of need, but should form the

underpinning of the interventions design and evaluation. A research led approach has a number of benefits including:

- Targeting of intervention to address specific areas of concern
- Incorporating prior learning into the design of interventions
- A reduction of the risks associated with unintended consequences
- Enabling the success of the intervention to be monitored and further enhanced
- Improve financial management of the project

This unit underpins Unit 3 - Enable safe and responsible road user behaviour

Unit 3 - Enable safe and responsible road user behaviour

As already mentioned within this document the role of a Road Safety Practitioner **is to provide, or facilitate the provision, of road safety education and training that seeks to establish, maintain and adapt personal road user behaviours that maximise safety.**

There are many steps in achieving this goal, from developing subject specific knowledge, understanding and skill through to being able to transfer this to all environments and contexts. This process requires that the road user not only understands what to do and how to do it, but is also aware of themselves and personal barriers that may prevent them from behaving in a way that minimises risk.

Unit 4 - Manage safety

Safety is of paramount importance in the delivery of road safety interventions. Many interventions are delivered on road and it should never be forgotten this is a live safety critical environment that needs to be carefully managed to ensure the safety of the participants, other road users and Road Safety practitioners. Even where on road training is not taking place safety needs to be actively considered with suitable control measures being in place to ensure the safety of all involved.

Unit 5 - Evaluation

It is vital that robust evaluation is completed when implementing any road safety initiative. Without evaluation it is very difficult, if not impossible, to:

- Ensure the intervention is achieving its objectives
- Ensure that resources are being used effectively
- To develop the intervention further
- For any learning to inform other interventions

Qualification

By the end of the course a participant will be able to:

- Assess the need for an educational intervention based on data
- Critically analyse an educational intervention
- Understand the role that research and evaluation has in road safety education
- Understand the need to work in partnership with other organisations

Guided Learning Hours (GLH): 70-80 hours / BTEC Level 2 – To be confirmed