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Road Safety & Schools

Teachers are under increased pressure to provide additional life skills along with the traditional academic curriculum.

*Embedded in the curriculum are programs* designed to help senior students address issues of health, safety and wellbeing at a time when they face significant changes and challenges in their lives.

Road safety is a significant health, safety and wellbeing issue – finding the right program to support the curriculum and deliver sensitive messages according to best practice can be time-consuming and challenging but is critically important.
Last year 1,146 people were killed on Australian roads and 379 people lost their lives on New Zealand roads. Many times this number were seriously injured.

It’s estimated that around 140 people are killed or injured on our roads every day.
An all too familiar headline…

Young people remain over-represented in our road toll

The enormity of loss is often only realised when it hits close to home, impacting family, friends and a school community.

THREE teens killed in a tragic crash which also left a friend seriously injured are being remembered as “wonderful kids” whose deaths have shaken an entire community.

Tributes flow for teens killed in horror crash
Your choice will make all the difference
– choose a program that follows government best practice guidelines

Illustrated left are approaches that work well according to the evidence.

- Less effective are those that are not linked with ongoing learning and lack clear goals.

Programs that promote early licensure, focus on vehicle emergency handling skills and use scare tactics without providing a parallel positive experience are actually detrimental to students.
Professionally developed by Road Safety Education Limited, RYDA is essential education for young drivers and their passengers at just the right time in their lives.

RYDA is an educational resource that, when embedded within existing school programs, supports learning activities and provides opportunities for in-class debriefing and further exploration by teachers.
A series of practical and powerful workshops that challenge students to change the way they think about road safety and to lay the foundation for safe road use throughout their lives.

Facilitators work with students to develop and practise personalised strategies and life skills which will help them respond positively to challenges on the road, both as drivers and highly influential passengers.
- Targets senior high school students aged 16–18 Yrs
- A one day, out of school excursion
- Designed for the whole year cohort
- Six interactive 30 minute workshops
- Classroom sized groups
- Students develop personalised strategies and resilience
- Supports teachers delivering school curriculum
Students experience the relationship between speed and stopping distance through practical observation.

Students see how their personality is an important aspect of the total road safety equation.

A discussion, routinely led by a Police Officer on key risk areas for young drivers and passengers.

A unique opportunity for students to interview a crash survivor and investigate the event that changed their life.

Students analyse a real crash and its contributing factors and develop plans for decision making in risky situations.

Students look at the road from the perspective of other road users, gaining an understanding of their challenges and learning how to “Drive So Others Survive”.

Six Interactive RYDA workshops
> Our Impact – per year

**Our Schools**
- 600 schools
- 43,000 students
- 2,500 teachers

**550,000+ students to date**

**Our Programs**
- 95 venues
- 375 program days

**Our People**
- 13 staff
- 500 Rotary volunteers from 300 Clubs
- 450 trained facilitators
RYDA - HELPING TO SAVE YOUNG LIVES
Evaluation – Awareness & Behaviour

Awareness Shift measured post attendance

We asked students to indicate their understanding of a number of issues after attending RYDA (compared to before). Below is a sample of questions and the percentage of students who said they were more or much more aware in each area:

- The Safe System approach and your role within it 81%
- How personality factors and mood affect risk 79%
- Driving as a social responsibility 77%
- How to reduce distractions in a car 79%
- How to plan critical decisions ahead of time 83%

95% of the 850 classroom teachers we surveyed believe RYDA should be compulsory for senior high school students.

60%* said RYDA directly supports the curriculum they teach in class.

96% of students surveyed said they would apply the things they learned at RYDA as a passenger or driver.

* Mainly gathered pre release of RYDA Teacher’s Companion

I have applied the tips given to act as a good and safe passenger and adhering to the 3 second gap after seeing how much of a difference it makes - RYDA student, 3 months post attendance.
As expected, the biggest shift is seen from pre to immediate post, however the three-month post result show a high retention of knowledge in most areas. Questions (abbreviated below) were multiple choice. The correct answer to questions 1-4 was always the highest amount – showing that pre RYDA attendance, students grossly underestimated the impact of these risk areas. The same students were surveyed in all three stages for direct comparison.
What our students say…

“This session really made me feel aware of how I could potentially put myself at risk but also protect myself from it. It was hard to distance myself from this session because it made me think about my own situation”

“I found the police officer really engaging and fun to listen to. The information he shared with my group was really mind blowing”

“We got to estimate the distance that it took the vehicle to stop. It was a fun, practical session. The people hosting our group were also very knowledgeable and including, which made this activity engaging.”

“To hear the story from those who were affected by the crash was awesome. The presenter was great with helping us understand and develop strategies, ideas for our future on the road”
Long after students board their buses home, we continue to provide information and support to help teachers build on the messages and motivation created on the day.

The wealth of resources on our website supports teachers from program booking (including information brochures, sample permission notes, risk assessments and curriculum links) to post RYDA follow-up (from lesson ideas in the Teacher’s Companion booklet to student quizzes and games and regular road safety newsletters).
“The presenters were of a very high quality and the feedback from the students during our debrief back at school was extremely encouraging. Nothing beats real life education and that was exactly what the students participated in today. It would take us weeks to get across what each of the experts manage to do in 30 minutes.” - **Teacher, Burdekin Catholic High School, QLD**
Who’s on the RYDA team?

Any winning team has a great base of supporters. From road safety experts, to corporate partners, community leaders and high profile individuals – RYDA has assembled a team of greats.

Respected Corporate Partners

BOC
A Member of the Linde Group

BRIDGESTONE

Valued Community Partner

TOYOTA
Community Foundation

mta super

Expert Advisory Council

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary Clubs in Australia & New Zealand
(ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC & WA)

(L-R) Prof Barry Watson, Director, Centre for Accident Research, QUT; Dr Neale Kinnear, Principal Psychologist, Transport Research Laboratory, UK; Dr Marilyn Johnson, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Transport Studies, Monash University; Mary Chamberlain, director of Evaluation Associates/consultant

Highly Regarded Patron & Vice Patrons

Foundation Patron: The Hon Sir William Deane (former Australian Governor General); Vice Patrons: Geoffrey McIntyre (Retired Chairman, Bank of China Australia Ltd); Gillian Moore (Retired Principal, Pymble Ladies’ College); Kenneth Moroney (former Commissioner, NSW Police Force); A/Prof Dr Brian Ower (Past Federal President, Australian Medical Association); The Hon James Wood (Former Judge, NSW Supreme Court); Ronald (Keith) Barton (retired CEO/MD James Hardie Industries (CEO)

Passionate Ambassadors

(L-R) Peter Frazer, President, Safer Australian Roads and Highways (SARAH); Andrew Morley, Actor, Philanthropist and Road Safety Advocate
Road Safety Education Limited has established the Partner School award to recognise high schools that share our commitment to excellence in road safety education. Under the banner of **Supporting Excellence – Trust the Tick**, the initiative is designed to contribute to a change in culture towards road safety education in high schools and increase awareness about the importance of providing students with a road safety program that ticks all the boxes for a best practice program.

Importantly the Supporting Excellence – Trust the Tick logo will be a point of reference for parents seeking to ensure that their local school is demonstrating a commitment to quality road safety education. This year around 400 committed schools have received the award, which recognises their ongoing participation in the RYDA Program for senior students.
These signs represent the **264 young lives lost** on Australian roads last year.

The faces behind them represent the sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and cherished friends we **must help protect.**