

Driver Training

Taxi Assessment

Expected Outcomes

County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service



Driver & Vehicle
Licensing
Agency



Document control

Version	Date	Author	Reason for change
001	July 2016	Driver Training	Not applicable
002			
003			
004			
005			
006			
007			

Sign-off process

	Policy	Procedure	Info note	Date
Section head			✓	July 2016
Rep bodies				
SMT				
DCFO / ACFO				
SLT / CFA (if applicable)				
Risk admin			✓	

Review date: 01/03/2

Item	Expected outcomes	Bibliography	Evidence obtained by
No. 1 Health & safety	<p>Demonstrate knowledge & understanding of health & safety, risk assessments, and safe systems of work</p> <p>Be able to carry out a comprehensive cockpit drill identifying position of all vehicle controls, adjusting driving seat, positioning steering wheel, head restraint and mirrors to provide maximum vision, control and comfort.</p>	<p>Risk assessments. Safe systems of work. The highway code. DVSA guide to driving.</p>	Observations
No. 2 Ecosafe driving	<p>You should drive in an 'eco friendly manner', considering your impact on the environment. Plan well ahead and choose appropriate gears, avoid heavy braking or over revving of the engine, particularly when stopped or moving off. If you have to stop for a long period such as at roadworks or railway crossings, consider stopping the engine to reduce pollution and save fuel. The examiner will assess this on your assessment; however this assessment will not affect the overall result of the test. If there are areas that need improvement you will receive appropriate feedback at the end of the test.</p>	<p>The highway code. DVSA guide to driving.</p>	Observations
No. 3 Controls	<p>Knowledge & practical application of the accelerator, clutch, gears, footbrake, handbrake, and steering.</p> <p>Accelerator – Demonstrate smooth use of the accelerator to maintain, increase or decrease speed.</p> <p>Gears – Demonstrate the ability to select the correct gear with the road speed of the vehicle using “Block” changing when appropriate, avoiding coasting.</p> <p>Clutch – Avoidance of jerky and uncontrolled use of the clutch when moving off, stopping and changing gear.</p> <p>Handbrake – Demonstrate use of the handbrake to prevent unwanted movement of the vehicle, for example when waiting at pedestrian crossings</p> <p>Footbrake - Demonstrate smooth use the footbrake to decrease speed progressively.</p> <p>Steering – Recognised systems for example “Pull Push” Steering</p>	<p>Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.</p>	Observations

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No. 4 Moving off	<p>Safely - demonstrating all round observations prior to moving away.</p> <p>Under control – demonstrating smooth accelerator / clutch control.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving .	Observations
No. 5 Mirrors	<p>Signalling - Full and effective use of all mirrors, including rear view, kerb and front of vehicle, should be used before applying any signals</p> <p>Changing direction – Appropriate mirrors should be used prior to change of direction to ensure sufficient space is available to move into without causing other road users to alter speed or direction.</p> <p>Change of speed – Appropriate mirrors should be used prior to any increase or decrease of speed to ensure other road users are not compromised.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations
No. 6 Signals	<p>Signals should be used to Warn and Inform Other Road Users, cancelling after the manoeuvre is completed, you should not beckon Other Road Users to proceed.</p> <p>Necessary – Signals should be used when Other Road Users will benefit from their use.</p> <p>Timed – The signal should be applied so that Other Road Users have sufficient time to react safely to them.</p> <p>Correctly – Signals should be used so that they cannot be misinterpreted by Other Road Users.</p> <p>Road horn - Only to be used when moving to warn of your presence, never sound your horn aggressively. Do not use when stationary unless another road user poses a danger.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations
No. 7 Judgement	<p>Overtaking – Overtaking must only be considered when it is safe, legal and necessary.</p> <p>A sufficient safety margin should be left when other vehicles are being overtaken. Cyclists and motorcyclists need as much space as other vehicles.</p> <p>Do not cut in too quickly after overtaking.</p> <p>Meeting traffic - Care should be taken when the width of the road is restricted or when the road narrows. If there is an obstruction on your side or not enough</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations

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Cont'd No. 7. Judgement Cont'd	<p>room for two vehicles to pass safely, you should be prepared to wait and let the approaching vehicle through.</p> <p>Crossing traffic - When turning right other vehicles should not have to slow or change their course to allow the vehicle to complete its turn.</p>		
No. 8 Junctions	<p>Approach speed – Have the ability to judge the correct speed of approach so that the vehicle can enter a junction safely or stop if necessary.</p> <p>Observation – Effective observations must be taken before moving into a junction and making sure it is safe before proceeding.</p> <p>Turn right – The vehicle should not cut the corner when turning right.</p> <p>Turn left – Position vehicle sufficiently from the left hand kerb to complete the manoeuvre without the need to swing to the right.</p> <p>Roundabouts - take notice and act on all the information available to you, including traffic signs and lane markings which direct you into the correct lane.</p> <p>Mini-roundabouts - Approach these in the same way as normal roundabouts. All vehicles MUST pass round the central markings except large vehicles which are physically incapable of doing so.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations
No. 9 Position	<p>Normal driving – The vehicle should be positioned correctly for the intended course to be taken. Where safe to do so, adopt a position which will enable you to take in more information whilst giving information to other road users.</p> <p>Lane discipline – Where lanes are marked, where possible, the vehicle should be positioned to the middle of the lane. Straddling lane markings should be avoided. Do not change lanes unnecessarily.</p> <p>Clearance to obstructions – Sufficient room must be allowed when passing stationary vehicles and obstructions. Display the readiness to be prepared to slow down or stop, as a door may open, a child may run out or a vehicle may pull out without warning.</p> <p>Following distance – On roads carrying faster moving traffic allow at least a 2 second gap between you and the vehicle in front. The gap should be at least doubled on wet roads and increased</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations

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Cont'd No. 9 Position Cont'd	<p>further on icy roads. In urban areas with lower speeds allow 1 vehicle length for every 10 mph.</p> <p>Normal stops – A safe and legal place to stop should be selected without causing inconvenience or obstruction to other road users.</p>		
No. 10 Use of Speed	<p>Progress - Always be able to stop on your own side of the road in the distance you can see to be clear. Speed must be proportional to the space available and what can clearly be seen.</p> <p>Undue hesitation – Avoid being over cautious by stopping or waiting when it is safe and normal to proceed.</p> <p>Appropriate speed - Safe and reasonable progress should be made along the road bearing in mind the road, traffic and weather conditions, road signs and speed limits.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations.
No. 11 Awareness and planning	<p>Awareness and planning- Display an awareness and consideration for other road users at all times.</p> <p>Ability to think and plan ahead, judging what other road users are going to do, predicting how their actions will affect the vehicle and react in good time.</p> <p>Ability to consider the actions of the more vulnerable groups of road users such as pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and horse riders.</p> <p>Anticipating road and traffic conditions, acting in good time rather than reacting to them at the last moment.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations
No. 12 Response to	<p>Display the awareness to be able to react to signals given by other road users, including people in charge of animals and be ready to act accordingly.</p> <p>All signals should be obeyed given by police officers, traffic wardens and school crossing patrols.</p> <p>Ability to use observational links to find associated hazards through the use of road signs and markings.</p> <p>Traffic signs – Is able to identify, understand and react to traffic signs</p> <p>Road markings – Is able to identify understand and react to road markings.</p> <p>Traffic lights – Act correctly at traffic</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations

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Cont'd No. 12 Response to Cont'd	<p>lights, checking that the road is clear before proceeding when the green light shows.</p> <p>Pedestrian, light controlled and zebra crossings – Control your speed on approach to pedestrian crossings move off, after looking carefully to ensure it is safe.</p>		
No. 13 Hazard	<p>Perception – Early Identification of hazards and associated risks.</p> <p>Priority – Demonstrate an ability to prioritize hazards.</p> <p>Approach - Approach all hazards at a safe controlled speed without being overcautious or interfering with the progress of other traffic.</p> <p>Negotiate – Taking into account your speed, other road users and the road and traffic conditions ahead, decide when it is appropriate to accelerate.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations
No. 14 Manoeuvring	<p>Observations – You must take good effective all round observation throughout the manoeuvre using guides effectively and show consideration to other road users.</p> <p>Control – Positioning accurately maintaining full control. Correct manoeuvring procedures to be followed.</p>	Highway code. DVSA guide to driving	Observations
No. 15 Ancillary controls	<p>The driver should demonstrate a satisfactory understanding and technical mastery of any ancillary control and use them effectively to enable safe and smooth driving.</p>	Highway code. Vehicle manufacturers handbook. DVSA guide to driving.	Observations
No. 16 Use of SatNav	<p>You should be able to demonstrate your ability to place the SatNav in an appropriate position and secure it to the windscreen as necessary without any cables interfering with the operation of any of the vehicle controls.</p> <p>You should demonstrate the ability to act safely on the information given by the Satnav whilst maintaining effective observations of any road signs or</p>	Highway code. Vehicle manufacturers handbook. DVSA guide to driving	Observations

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	<p>markings that may affect the vehicle you are driving.</p>		
<p>No. 17 Multi-Lanes</p>	<p>You must be able to demonstrate the ability to enter onto, travel and exit a multi-lane carriageway safely whilst maintaining adequate progress throughout. Show the ability to maintain a safe following distance from the vehicle in front and carry out a safe overtake if the opportunity arises.</p>	<p>Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.</p>	<p>Observations</p>
<p>No. 18 Taxi wheelchair</p>	<p>You need to show your ability to use the wheelchair ramps competently. You need to put the imaginary wheelchair user and hir or her wheelchair into your vehicle. Then ensure the wheelchair and its user were securely installed ready for a journey. You will then be asked to reverse this whole process.</p>	<p>Highway code. Vehicle manufacturers handbook.</p>	<p>Observations and Q & A.</p>
<p>No. 19 Taxi Manoeuvre</p>	<p>Taxi test; You need to show the examiner that you can safely turn the vehicle around to face the opposite direction. How you do this is left to you, but you must not use a driveway or mount the pavement. You are tested on your ability to select a safe place to carry out the manoeuvre whilst taking effective observation and acting accordingly on what you see, securing the vehicle by use of the parking brake.</p>	<p>Highway code. DVSA guide to driving.</p>	<p>Observations</p>

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