



Driver & Vehicle
Standards
Agency

Trailer Training Accreditation Scheme

Stakeholder Toolkit



Helping you **stay safe** on **Britain's roads**

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Introduction

Introduction

The Trailer Training Accreditation Scheme is for all who tow for leisure and business. Motorists who get professional training through the scheme will be given the skills and knowledge to tow safely.

Why we are reaching out

Towing safely is an important issue and government has taken action to help those who tow to stay safe.

The introduction of the Trailer Training Accreditation Scheme provides professional training which follows the national syllabus for car and trailer towing.

We want to work with partners and stakeholders to reach motorists who are new to towing, those who have towing experience and those who tow in connection with their business or hobby.

Persuading drivers to get training from accredited providers – whether they are towing for the first time or tow regularly – will help to keep Britain's road safe.

Your support in sharing our key messages and raising awareness of the scheme with those who tow is vital.

Who is the accreditation scheme for?

The Trailer Training Accreditation Scheme is aimed at:

- Those who tow for domestic/leisure purposes
- Those who tow for business activities
- Motorists who are new to towing
- Motorists who were not previously required to take a practical test to tow and may benefit from formal training

- Motorists who were previously required to take a practical test but may benefit from refresher training

Towing safely is an important issue and I urge drivers to access the training to help keep Britain's roads safe.

The new accreditation scheme will help them to get targeted training and improve their driving skills.

I want to thank the trailer training industry, stakeholders and our partners for their commitment and support in developing this training scheme over the last few months.

Baroness Vere of Norbiton, Minister for Roads, Buses and Places



Trailer Training Accreditation Scheme

Trailer Training Accreditation Scheme

The purpose of the scheme is to accredit training providers and persuade motorists to take up accredited training. It is an industry led scheme, which will be supported and monitored by a National Council.

The scheme has been launched to help everyone who plans to tow to do so safely.

Training providers who become accredited through the scheme can promote their courses to motorists.

DVSA will be encouraging anyone who tows for leisure or business to find a training provider using the accreditation scheme.

Mark Winn, DVSA Chief Driving Examiner

Structure

The accreditation scheme is made up of:

Name	What they do
A National Council	Monitor and review how scheme is working
Accrediting Bodies	Provide accreditation to training providers
Accredited Training Providers	Provide accredited training to motorists

The National Council

The National Council for Accredited Trailer Training (NCATT) has been established to provide a forum which will monitor how the scheme is working.

Its members are the Department for Transport (DfT), the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) and the accrediting bodies.

The Council will meet regularly to discuss the scheme, including reviewing take up rates, overall standard and feedback from training providers and their customers.

The Accrediting Bodies

Accrediting bodies are responsible for setting up accreditation schemes which training providers can use to get their courses accredited.

We have formally recognised three accrediting bodies:

- The National Register of LGV Instructors
- The Safe Towing Scheme*
- Skills for Logistics

*Jointly run by the National Trailer and Towing Association and Diamond Advanced Motorists.

The three accrediting bodies set their own fee structures and decide how they will operate their individual schemes.

They also have a key role in communicating with customers to encourage them to take up training from providers who they have accredited.

Accredited Training Providers

Trailer training providers who become accredited will provide professional training to motorists which follows the national syllabus for car and trailer towing.

They will benefit from being part of a scheme which government, the accrediting bodies and industry will regularly promote and support as the best way to get the skills and knowledge needed to tow safely.

The Car and Trailer Training Syllabus

DVSA has also introduced a car and trailer training syllabus to help the accrediting bodies make sure standards of training will be met.

The syllabus represents current good practice for driver training and sets out how to train drivers in the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to be a safe and responsible driver when towing.

Launch to Training Providers

The Trailer Training Accreditation Scheme was launched to training providers via a series of DVSA webinars in March.

The webinars provided further details about how the scheme works and introduced the 3 accrediting bodies.

During April and May, training providers have been working to become accredited through 1 or more of the accrediting bodies.



Public Awareness Campaign

Public Awareness Campaign

DVSA is running an awareness campaign to support the public launch of the accreditation scheme. We welcome the support of our partners and stakeholders in using and amplifying the key messages – and sharing our activity.

Aims

The aims of the public launch phase of the campaign are to:

- Raise awareness of accredited trailer training with motorists who want to tow for business or leisure
- Establish accredited training as the right way to find out how to tow a trailer safely and with confidence
- Encourage motorists to take up trailer training from providers who are accredited under the scheme
- Continue to encourage training providers to become accredited through the scheme

Media Activity

We will also drive media coverage through press releases for consumer and trade titles and engage with trailer and driver training organisations and road safety bodies to announce the public launch and provide more information about how the scheme works.

Across our social media channels, we will promote the importance of getting professional training, whatever motorists are towing, with regular signposting to the accreditation scheme using seasonal/holiday hooks.

Key Campaign Messaging

We have developed a set of key campaign messages for our primary target audiences: motorists who tow for leisure and those who tow in connection with their business.

General motorists

Accredited training is for all who tow for leisure.

Use GOV.UK to find out more about accredited training.

Choose a training provider who is part of the accreditation scheme.

Getting professional training gives you the skills and knowledge needed to tow safely.

Targeted training will support and improve your driving skills.

Business

Accredited training is for all who tow as part of their business.

Most businesses will continue to make sure their drivers get trailer training.

Use GOV.UK to find out more about accredited training.

Choose accredited training providers to train your drivers.

Getting professional training means your drivers gain the skills and knowledge needed to tow safely while working for your business.

Specialist training is available if you tow specific types of trailer. This will help to support and improve the skills of your drivers.



Campaign Assets

Campaign Assets

Here you can find the different assets we'll be using during the campaign.

You can join in the conversation about accredited training online by:

- Using the hashtag #knowbeforeyoutow
- Tagging us across social media @DVSAgovuk
- Linking to our GOV.UK pages on the accreditation scheme and towing safely:

Press Release

New accredited training scheme to help motorists tow safely

With the summer holidays fast approaching, DVSA (Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency) is calling on motorists who are planning to tow over the summer to get accredited trailer training to help keep Britain's roads safe.

The new trailer training scheme, launched today (18 May), will provide motorists with the skills and knowledge they need to tow safely. The training covers large and small trailers – and courses are also available for people who want to tow specific types of trailers such as caravans and horseboxes.

DVSA recommends accredited training to motorists before they tow for the first time - as well as those drivers who tow regularly, as a chance to refresh and formalise their practical experience.

Using a trainer who is accredited under the new scheme means motorists can be confident they will receive training which follows the national syllabus for car and trailer towing. This makes sure motorists know how to drive, use and operate their vehicle safely, whatever they are towing.

The Government changed the law around driver training as part of 33 measures to increase HGV testing capacity and tackle the shortage of lorry drivers on our roads. The measures have been a success with the number of driving tests increased by 90% compared to pre-pandemic levels and over 11,000 more people trained to become HGV drivers through our new HGV Skills Bootcamps.

Baroness Vere, Minister for Roads, Buses and Places, said:

“Towing safely is an important issue and I urge drivers to access the training to help keep Britain’s roads safe.

“The new accreditation scheme, will help them to get targeted training and improve their driving skills.

“I want to thank the trailer training industry, stakeholders and our partners for their commitment and support in developing this training scheme over the last few months.”

Mark Winn, DVSA’s Chief Driving Examiner, said:

“With the summer holidays fast approaching, we know many families will be looking to tow a trailer or caravan so it’s vital you have the skills to do this safely.

“We’d encourage anyone who plans to tow something, whether it’s a caravan on holiday, or a trailer to the tip, to get training from an accredited provider. They will be able to make sure you have the skills and knowledge to keep you and other motorists on Britain’s roads safe.”

The Department for Transport (DfT) and DVSA are supporting the scheme and promoting the benefits of getting professional training. Further [details about the training scheme](#) are available on GOV.UK.

Further information

Before setting off with a trailer or caravan, motorists must carry out basic safety checks. DVSA’s video sets out how make sure a vehicle and trailer are safe and legal.

<https://youtu.be/JBv-Dj-i2Qk>

Alongside supporting the trailer training accreditation scheme, DVSA will also:

- continue roadside enforcement of trailers to ensure they are safe and do not present harm to others

- work with driving instructors to encourage learner drivers to take accredited training if they wish to tow
- review the theory questions on towing skills to consider additional question

[The syllabus for car and trailer training is available on GOV.UK.](#)

The following 3 bodies will provide accreditation to training providers:

National Register of LGV Instructors

www.lgvinstructorregister.com

lgvinstructorregister@rtitb.com

Skills for Logistics

www.skillsforlogistics.co.uk

training@skillsforlogistics.co.uk

Safe Towing Scheme

www.safetowingscheme.co.uk

info@safetowingscheme.co.uk

Motorists will need to contact the accrediting bodies to find an accredited trainer.

Blog post

Launching the trailer safety accreditation scheme

Excerpt: *Mark Winn, DVSA's Chief Driving Examiner, explains how the scheme has taken shape and sets out our plans to promote accredited training to motorists.*

Launching the trailer safety accreditation scheme

In November 2021, I explained the work we have been doing with the trailer training industry to [develop the accreditation scheme](#).

Last month we launched the first part of the scheme, encouraging trailer training providers to become accredited, and now we're ready to promote this training to motorists.

Before we get to that, I want to explain what's happened since November. If you remember, we'd just held some workshops to look at what the accreditation scheme could achieve and how it should be delivered. I know many of you had a lot of questions about how the scheme would work, and I hope we're now in better position to answer these.

Following up the workshops

After the workshops, we had 3 priorities to focus on:

- establish a Council to act as a forum for improving and growing the scheme
- develop the standards and syllabus for car and trailer towing
- identify and formally recognise the bodies who would provide accreditation to training providers

The legislation to bring the car and trailer test changes into force was passed on 16 December 2021. This removed the need for motorists to take a mandatory B+E test to tow a trailer or caravan.

Setting up a Council

In January we held the first meeting of the National Council for Accredited Trailer Training. The Council members are:

- the Department for Transport (DfT)
- DVSA
- the initial accrediting bodies

The Council is a forum to look at how the scheme is working and will meet regularly to check on how things are working. This includes reviewing take up rates for accredited training, whether overall standards are being met and feedback from training providers and customers.

Developing standards

To help the accrediting bodies make sure standards of training are being maintained, we have introduced a [B+E training syllabus](#).

This sets out how to train drivers in the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to be a safe and responsible driver when towing a trailer with a category B motor vehicle.

We developed the syllabus in partnership with the Trailer Towing Advisory Group (TTAG), focusing on our common goal of keeping everyone safe on Britain's roads.

The syllabus represents current good practice for driver training. Importantly, it recognises that there will be many different, valid ways to deliver the learning outcomes as we know many of you asked about whether the scheme can be tailored to the individual and their level of skill. Providing client-centred learning is really important, and we hope the syllabus will help you do this.

It has now been published on GOV.UK. I'd encourage you to familiarise yourself with it and use it when training.

Recognising the accrediting bodies

To deliver the accreditation scheme, we needed to formally recognise organisations who were interested in providing accreditation to training providers.

So far, we've formally recognised 3 accrediting bodies:

- The [National Register of LGV Instructors \(NRI\)](#)
- The [Safe Towing Scheme](#) (jointly run by the National Trailer and Towing Association and Diamond Advanced Motorists)
- [Skills for Logistics](#) (SfL)

Accrediting bodies set their own fee structures and decide how they want to operate their schemes. They are responsible for making sure that the standards and syllabus are being monitored and maintained by accredited trainers on their scheme. To find out more about what each accrediting body offers, and how much they charge you will need to visit their website or speak to them directly.

The accrediting bodies will also play a vital role in communicating the scheme to prospective customers, encouraging people to take up accredited training before towing.

Launching to training providers

On 17 March, we held the first of four webinars to launch the accreditation scheme to trailer training providers and introduce the three accrediting bodies to them.

We shared details about the accredited bodies and their schemes, as well as contact details so training providers could seek further information on how to apply and get accredited.

Over 100 participants took part in the webinars, many of whom got to pose questions to the policy team and myself about the scheme and how it will work.

How can you help?

Today, we're going to start [promoting the scheme to motorists who want to tow](#).

We know that you are as committed to keeping Britain's roads safe as we are.

Promoting accredited training to your pupils, especially if they're looking to tow trailers when they have passed their test, will help to raise awareness and hopefully increase take up.

We are also clear that this training is for everyone. There are many drivers that have always been able to tow without taking the B+E test and we know that many of them would benefit from professional, accredited training. So, if you have any other ways

to signpost the scheme to motorists, including any of your former pupils, that will help us to raise awareness with existing trailer users.

Graphics

**Know
before you tow!**

Find out more at:

www.gov.uk/guidance/tow-a-trailer-with-a-car-safety-checks



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Service – has your trailer been serviced recently?

Air in tyres - check pressure, tread depth and condition.

Fit the breakaway cable or safety chain and check electrical connections.

Examine lights, mirrors, load and weight limit, and do the jockey wheel test.



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