


Letter from Gaye

Dear Mentor or Supporter

Welcome to the start of another financial year. This month we are looking forward to the response from the Townsville City Council grant application, as they have put our application back another month, but hopefully for a good reason. We will be assessed in a new budget and hopefully a bigger cut of the pie.

 We have been fortunate to receive some sponsorship funding from the Department of Communities, but not the full amount that we applied for. So we will be pushing on in the same form that we have been and Queensland Youth Services Inc. will remain as our major form of support. I haven't given up yet and am still seeking funding in other directions. So for all of you it means, 'business as usual'.

I would like to thank those of you who attended our BBQ on the Strand. It was a lovely night, weather wise, and the steaks were beautiful.

Regards,
Gaye Newey
Project Co-ordinator

SPONSORS



'Keys to a Future' program is partly sponsored by Department of Communities Sponsorship Fund



QUEENSLAND YOUTH SERVICES

211 Sturt St
PO Box 573
Townsville QLD 4810

Phone 07 4771 3648
Fax 07 4721 5804

E-mail: resourceofficer@qldyouthservices.org.au



New Schedule

With **30** young learner drivers wishing to gain on-road driving experience on my books, I have tried to put together a schedule for each of them to get some form of experience.

This is the plan—

1 Mentor has up to 4 Learner Drivers on their list at any one time. These Learner Drivers will be rotated weekly, to suit your timetable. Some of these learner drivers will be also swapping from a Mentor with an automatic license with one that has a manual license.

EXAMPLE—Shayla wishes to get a manual license. She goes with Jenny, who only has an Auto licence and Car, to start her off getting confidence on the road and to learn the road rules. Then she swaps to Wes, who has a manual license and Car, to start learning gear shifting and manual driving experience on the road.

I would like to hear from you all to see if this schedule will work or NOT work in with your available time. Also if you feel this is not what you would like to happen, then I will stick with the way we are doing things now.

Love to hear feedback from you all.

Please either call me on 4771 3648 or email me on resourceofficer@qldyouthservices.org.au

Some helpful hints

PLANNING YOUR DRIVING LESSON

1 – Decide what you're going to teach

You need to think, and talk to your learner about:

Your supervisor must be seated in the passenger seat next to you. You may have more than one supervisor during your learner licence period, but only one supervisor per driving session.

- what driving skills they have – don't let them try something beyond their ability or force them to try something they're not confident with
- what driving skills they need to learn
- what needs to be taught or revised and
- what you're going to teach first, moving from easier to more difficult tasks. Give them a small number of tasks that they can complete without making many mistakes—they will learn quicker.

2 – Rehearse driving tasks

Think about:

- how you do a driving task (moving forward, turning)
- how you will explain it to your learner
- how you will show them and
- their limited experience – you need to teach them every step in a driving task.



3 – Communication

Think about the words and gestures you're going to use when your learner is driving. You need to:

- give instructions well in advance and always try to use the same terms (use phrases like 'at the next intersection turn right' rather than 'turn right at the next intersection')
- use the words 'correct', 'ok' or 'yes' rather than 'right'
- hand signals can support your spoken instructions and help avoid confusion
- keep your language simple and speak in a calm voice and
- use positive language ('you did that turn well, but next time you should try...').

FOR MORE HELPFUL HINTS—TRY the RACQ 'LEARN 2 GO' WEBSITE



If you would like to pass on some helpful hints to other mentors, please contact me on 4771 3648 or email: resourceofficer@qldyouthservices.org.au

