

The Learner Driver Syllabus (car).

- Eyesight test – The driver must be able to read a motorcar number plate from 20.5 metres for the old style plate and 20 metres for the new style plate. If vision is defective then glasses or contact lenses must be worn. If glasses or contact lenses are required to achieve these standards then they must be worn every time you drive.
- Precautions – The driver checks including: doors; seat; mirrors; seatbelt; head restraint; handbrake; neutral; if a stall occurs, the vehicle must be kept under control.
- Control – All the controls should be used smoothly. This includes use of the accelerator; clutch; gears; footbrake; handbrake and steering.
- Moving Away – Drivers are assessed on moving away smoothly and progressively; under control; on the level; at an angle from behind a parked vehicle; and where possible, on a hill; with the correct observations.
- Emergency Stop/Controlled Stop – Even and progressive braking is required, avoiding locking the wheels. In wet weather, drivers should be aware that it may take up to twice as long to stop as it does in the dry.
- Reverse to the Left – Full control and reasonable accuracy are required. Good all round observations throughout the exercise and correct response to other road users and pedestrians is required.
- Reverse to the Right - Full control and reasonable accuracy are required. Good all round observations throughout the exercise and correct response to other road users and pedestrians is required.
- Turn in the Road - Full control and reasonable accuracy are required. Good all round observations throughout the exercise and correct response to other road users and pedestrians is required.
- Reverse Parking - Full control and reasonable accuracy are required. Good all round observations throughout the exercise and correct response to other road users and pedestrians is required.
- Reverse Bay Parking – This exercise is carried out in the test centre car park, the candidate can choose which bay to use and the type of approach where practicable. As above, full control and reasonable accuracy are required. Good all round observations throughout the exercise and correct response to other road users and pedestrians is required.
- Use of Mirrors – Mirrors should be used regularly and drivers should be aware of the presence of others in their blind spots. Drivers response to the all-round situation will be tested. Early use of the mirrors should be made before signalling; changing direction and/or speed; and as part of the mirrors-signal-manoevre routine.
- Signalling – Drivers should give signals clearly and in good time to warn other road users of their intentions in accordance with the Highway Code.

- Understanding and Responding to Signs – Drivers should be able to understand and respond appropriately to all traffic signs at all times. Drivers should understand the signs key: Triangles warn, Circles give orders and Rectangles or Squares provide information.
- Understanding and Responding to Signals – Drivers should understand the meanings of all signals from other drivers and riders plus Traffic Wardens, Police Officers and School Crossing Patrols. Drivers should respond correctly and in good time to all signals including Traffic lights, Pedestrian Crossings, at Fire Stations and Railway Crossings.
- Use of Speed – Safe and reasonable progress should be made according to the road, weather and traffic conditions, the road signs and speed limits in force. Drivers should always be able to stop within the distance they can see is clear.
- Following Distance – A safe distance from the vehicle ahead must always be maintained in all conditions, including when stopping in traffic queues.
- Maintaining Progress – Pupils must drive at appropriate speeds for the type of road and the speed limit, the type and density of the traffic, weather and visibility. A safe approach to all hazards should be demonstrated without being overly cautious, all safe opportunities to proceed at junctions and roundabouts should be taken.
- Dealing with Junctions – The correct procedure should be applied to all types of road junction. This includes applying the mirror-signal-manoevre routine in good time and using the correct lanes. Good all round observations should be made and a safe response to other road users and pedestrians demonstrated.
- Judgement – The correct response should be applied when dealing with other road users, including overtaking, meeting on coming traffic and turning across the path of traffic. Other road users must not be forced into slowing down, swerving or stopping.
- Positioning – The correct position should be maintained at all times according to the type of road, the direction being taken and the presence of parked vehicles and pedestrians.
- Clearance to Obstructions – Plenty of room should be allowed when passing stationary vehicles and other obstructions that may be obscuring pedestrians.
- Pedestrian Crossings – Drivers must be able to recognise different types of pedestrian crossings and respond correctly to each one.
- Position for Normal Stops – Drivers should choose safe and legal places to stop and not cause inconvenience or obstruction to others.
- Awareness and Planning – Drivers should think and plan well ahead and anticipate the actions of other road users. Drivers should demonstrate safe attitudes when dealing with vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and horse riders.
- Ancillary Controls – Drivers should understand the function of all the controls and switches, especially those that have a bearing on road safety. Drivers are assessed on the appropriate use of indicators, lights, windscreen wipers, demisters and heaters.