



3. TACS Demonstration

3.1 Child Protection

- A Disclosure and Baring Service (DBS) police check is required for all volunteers working with children under the age of 16 or vulnerable adults.
- A DBS police check is therefore required for all TACS demonstrators and reveals details of any convictions, cautions, reprimands and final warnings the applicant has received, regardless of length of time since the incidents.
- Any information contained on a disclosure is confidential between the Foundation and the applicant.
- Once you have been trained, the Foundation will provide you with an ID card which shows you are an official TACS Demonstrator and provides security for both the school and yourself.
- You must display your TACS ID card at all times when visiting the school and delivering a demonstration.
- You will be allocated a unique TACS ID reference which shows the date of your DBS check.
- We will remind you to renew your DBS every 3 years but please ensure you are aware of the expiry date as well.
- It is essential that demonstrators should avoid physical contact with the children at any time; unless in an emergency situation.
- Do not be on your own with the children at any time a teacher / assistant must accompany you at all times.



3.2 Demonstration Overview

The aim of the demonstration is to teach children to be safe on the road by creating a greater awareness of trucks and their associated dangers. This objective is achieved by DHL employees taking a truck into a school environment.

The children learn by taking a practical part in the TACS road safety demonstration, carrying out various tasks establishing:

- The distance they need to stand in front of the truck to be seen by the driver.
- What the driver can and cannot see from his cab down the side of his truck.
- What the driver can see in his mirrors; where his 'blindspots' are around the truck.
- The size of a truck compared with other vehicles e.g. bicycles, cars, buses.
- The distance on the nearside a truck requires when turning left at a road junction.
- The noise of the engine relative to the shout of a child.

The remainder of this section explains how the demonstration is delivered in greater detail.

To start the demonstration

- Greet the children
- Introduce yourselves
- Explain what the TACS demonstration is about
- Ask the children what comes by truck
- Use your own ideas to engage the children
- Don't forget to use your demonstrators cards as a memory jogger



3.3 Demonstration - Rear Vision

Purpose:

To illustrate the 'Blind spots' that exist for the driver at the rear of the truck.

Resources Required:

- Vehicle and trailer

3.3.1 Preparation

Ensure that both door windows are lowered.

3.3.2 Demonstration

- Ask a child to sit in the cab on the driver's seat; using a teacher or assistant to help them up.
- Instruct five children to stand in a line behind the back of the vehicle.
- Ask the teacher if any of the children can be seen.
- Add five more children to the line
- Ask the teacher if any of the children can be seen.
- Continue until the full group is lined up behind the vehicle.
- Ask the teacher if any of the children can be seen.

- **3.3.3 Discussion Points**

- Drivers have a limited field of vision when reversing.
- Some vehicles have a reversing bleeper fitted to warn people that it is reversing.

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3.4. Demonstration - Vehicle Noise

Purpose: To establish that a driver is unable to hear the shout of a child whilst in the cab with the vehicle engine switched on.

Resources Required:

- Vehicle and trailer with a radio.

3.4.1 Preparation

Ensure cab windows are closed and turn the radio to 'on' (mid-high volume).

3.4.2 Demonstration

- One demonstrator to sit in the cab with two of the children from the group and a Teacher or assistant.
- The second demonstrator then takes the children to the rear of the vehicle.
- Select a child from the group (ask for the one with the loudest voice).
- Explain to the child that on the count of three you want them to shout 'STOP' as loudly as possible. This must also be explained to the other children in the group
- Ask them to tell the driver to blow the horn if they hear anybody shout 'STOP' loud and clear.
- Start the engine on the vehicle and rev at a high idle speed, ensuring that the radio is on, the demonstrator at the rear of the vehicle then counts to three and asks the child to shout 'STOP'
- Select between five and ten children. Then, count to three again and ask them to shout again.
- Repeat as above until all children are shouting or the horn is blown.



Possible Enhancement

- Place a football under the rear axle of the stationary vehicle at the beginning of this part of the demonstration.
- At the end of this part of the demonstration, explain to the children that at no time should they attempt to retrieve their football if it goes under the lorry.

3.4.3 Discussion Points

- Driver may leave the engine running whilst the vehicle is stationary, e.g. whilst a cement mixer is unloading; or a fridge engine, or a refuse collector, so although the vehicle is stationary the driver still needs to be able to hear the children in case they start to move away.
- Driver may have the radio on whilst the vehicle is stationary



3.5. Demonstration - Side Vision

Purpose: To illustrate the 'blind spots' that exist at the side of the truck for the driver, and to show how the driver uses the mirrors to maneuver the vehicle.

Resources Required:

- One vehicle and trailer
- One bicycle

3.5.1 Preparation

Driver and passenger side door windows to be lowered.

3.5.2 Demonstration

- Select a child with a bicycle.
- Starting at the nearside rear of the vehicle walk forward at the side of the child on the bicycle
- Explain to the children that if they ride their bicycle up the side of the vehicle the driver can't see them.
- Highlight the 'Blindspots' to the children.

Possible Enhancement

- Open the near-side door and highlight the floor height. Select a child to demonstrate the height. Close the door.
- Compare the wheel-size with the height of the child.

3.5.3 Discussion Points

- The 'blindspots' highlighted.
- Bicycle riding on the inside of a vehicle and the risk of not being seen by the truck driver.
- Drivers will not be looking into their side mirrors all the time (as they are looking in the direction of where they are going).



3.6. Demonstration - Turning Left

Purpose: To illustrate the space required by a truck when turning left at a junction stressing the dangers to cyclists of encroaching within this space.

Resources Required:

- Vehicle One road junction - (preferably a 'T' junction). This can be constructed using traffic cones; timber Safety barriers (posts and rope) or a couple of planks of wood painted yellow.

3.6.1 Preparation

- Place a traffic cone under the front wheel of the trailer

3.6.2 Demonstration

- Ask all children to stand in the viewing area (behind the safety barrier).
- Start the vehicle and move the vehicle forward and left a few inches in order to crush the cone under the wheel.
- Stop the vehicle. Apply handbrake and switch off engine
- Ask the children to observe the squashed cone

3.6.3 Discussion Points

- The injuries suffered when a person is in an accident with a truck
- Dangers of cycling on the inside path of a vehicle turning left at a junction.

3.7. Demonstration - Forward Vision

Purpose: To illustrate the 'blind spots' that exist in front of the truck for the driver, and to demonstrate the distance children need to stand in front of the truck to be seen by the driver.

Resources Required:

- Vehicle and trailer with high windscreen
- One adult to sit in cab (e.g. teacher)

3.7.1 Demonstration

- Illustrate the height of the vehicle and the height of the driver above the ground (in metres).
- Stand in front of the vehicle and highlight the height of the windscreen relative to an adult.
- Select the smallest child in the group and instruct them to stand in front of the vehicle, highlighting the height of the windscreen relative to a child.
- Ask the teacher to sit in the cab on the driver's seat.
- Walk the child forward until the adult in the cab can see the child's feet.
- Notify the children that this area is known as the "DANGER ZONE".

Possible enhancement

If you are giving a demonstration at a small school with not many children then you may have time to enhance your demonstration slightly.

- One TACS demonstrator ties fluorescent tape to the windscreen wiper spindle or front cab grab handle (as near to the bottom of the windscreen as possible).
- Using the fluorescent tape make a 'triangle' from the vehicle windscreen to the second cone.
- We would ask you be aware that the children may play with the fluorescent tape and not pay attention to the demonstration.



3.7.2 Discussion Points:

- How far must a child stand in front of the vehicle to be seen by the driver?
- The smaller the child, the further forward he/she must stand in front of the vehicle to be seen.
- You are even lower down if kneeling on a skate-board.