

BIKEABILITY ADOPTED BY NORTH WALES LOCAL AUTHORITIES



- [Bikeability](#) is the brand name for the government approved National Standards Cycle Training. It provides training in real conditions, hence equipping the trainee to undertake their daily journeys by bike.

Bikeability is 'cycling proficiency for the 21st Century' and helps get more children cycling, more often, more safely.

"We regard the introduction of the National Standards Cycle Training as an important progression in the way that we provide training for cyclists. Added to that, being able to deliver training under the *Bikeability* brand gives our clients the added confidence that comes with having a scheme that is recognised nationally." *Dafydd Edwards, Road Safety Officer, Conwy.*

It is being brought to Wales by CTC, the National Cyclists' Organisation, as part of a Welsh Assembly Government funded project.

Environment Minister Jane Davidson said:

"As a keen cyclist myself, I am keen to encourage lots more cycling in Wales, both as a mode of transport and as a form of recreation. That is why the Deputy First Minister and I launched the Welsh Assembly Government's Walking and Cycling



Action Plan in 2009 which sets out how we will encourage lots more people in Wales to walk and cycle regularly.

"The Bikeability training will help young people in Gwynedd and Conwy to develop the skills and confidence they need to cycle safely. I hope it will also encourage them to cycle regularly. By cycling more and using our cars less we can cut down on our carbon emissions, significantly reduce Wales' footprint and help to ensure that we keep fit, healthy and happy. "

Gwenda Owen, CTC's Cycle Training Development Officer for Wales, has been working with Gwynedd and Conwy to enable them to be the first Local Authorities in Wales to register as Bikeability providers.

Gwenda states 'In showing this level of commitment to Bikeability they are ensuring that young people in Gwynedd and Conwy are given the skills and confidence to cycle where ever they need to go: to school, visiting friends and for recreatio, and so allowing young people to benefit from all that cycling has to offer in terms of health, independence and sustainability'

"Gwynedd Council feel privileged to have been given Bikeability Registration. This means we can now feel confident that the Cycle Training we deliver in our Primary School is of the highest standard and has Department for Transport approval" *Mai Jones, Green Travel Plan Coordinator.*

Bikeability training is also delivered in Denbighshire and available in other parts of Wales through registered training organisations. The bursary program has ensured that all Local Authorities now have access to National Standard Instructors and the majority are working towards delivering to this standard.

For more information please contact Gwenda Owen on 07825 081097