

## CYCLISTS AND THE LAW

Cycling is a great way of getting about. It's cheap, it's fun, it's good exercise and it's environmentally friendly.

However, cyclists just like all other road users, must obey UK traffic laws. These laws are there for a reason. Breaking them not only risks your own safety but also the safety of other road users.

Also, if you are caught cycling illegally, you could have to pay a fixed penalty notice.

This leaflet covers five of the most common cycling offences and explains how these affect road safety:

- footways;
- pedestrian zones;
- one way streets;
- red traffic lights; and
- unroadworthy bikes.

It also describes some of the everyday traffic restrictions that you might face as a cyclist and explains what various different road signs mean and why they are there.



Bikeability is the national standard for cycle training. It is designed to teach both children and adults the skills they need to cycle safely in today's traffic conditions.

There are three Bikeability levels:

**LEVEL 1:** Aimed at novice cyclists, training takes place in a traffic free environment, teaching basic cycle craft.

**LEVEL 2:** This takes place on quiet roads under real traffic conditions, teaching the skills necessary to make everyday cycling trips on quiet roads.

**LEVEL 3:** This takes place on busy roads teaching the skills necessary for cycling trips on busy roads using complex junctions and road features.

For more information on Bikeability training, please contact the council's Transport Policy Team:

Tel: 01628 796097, or email:  
[transport.planning@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:transport.planning@rbwm.gov.uk)

## CYCLE LEGAL - CYCLE SAFE

Respect the rules of the road  
& respect other road users

### FOOTWAYS

Pavements are for pedestrians

### PEDESTRIAN ZONES

Don't cycle when restrictions apply

### ONE WAY STREETS

Don't cycle against the traffic

### TRAFFIC LIGHTS

You are traffic too, so stop at red

### ROADWORTHY BIKES

Working brakes plus lights & reflectors at night



**FOOTWAYS** A footway is the technical term for a pavement alongside a road. Unless clearly signed as a shared path or cycle track, cycling on a footway is illegal. Cycling on footways is also selfish and irresponsible and may put others at risk of injury, especially elderly pedestrians or young children.

**PEDESTRIAN ZONES** In busy town centres, pedestrian zones keep vehicles out and create a safe and pleasant shopping environment.

Pedestrian zones are in place in Peascod Street and Oxford Road East in Windsor and parts of High Street and King Street in Maidenhead. Restrictions are shown on the signs at the entry points.

**WINDSOR ZONE:** Peascod Street is very busy and on a hill, so for safety reasons, cycling is banned at all times. Get off and push your bike in this area.

**MAIDENHEAD ZONE:** Restrictions apply between 10am and 4pm. Do not ride your bike here between these times. Cycling is permitted at other times, but you must be careful and always give pedestrians priority.



Unsegregated route for pedestrians and cyclists only



Segregated route for pedestrians and cyclists only



Route for pedal cycles only



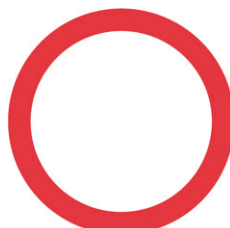
No entry for vehicular traffic



Riding of pedal cycles prohibited



Motor vehicles prohibited



All vehicles prohibited (including bicycles)

NOTE: For further information on traffic signs, rules and regulations, please refer to the Highway Code ([www.highwaycode.net](http://www.highwaycode.net))

**ONE WAY STREETS** It can be really tempting to take a short cut the wrong way along a one-way street. However, unless there are special signs and road markings for a contra-flow cycle lane, you are not allowed to do this.

Other road users will not be expecting you and will not be looking out for you, so if you do want to take a short cut the wrong way along a one-way street, get off and push your bike.

**RED TRAFFIC LIGHTS** Cycling through a red light is both illegal and irresponsible. It puts you and other road users at unnecessary risk of serious injury. You could easily hit a pedestrian or vehicle that has been given a green signal.

**UNROADWORTHY BIKES** While there is no MOT test for bikes, the Highway Code does require all bikes to have working brakes. Being able to stop quickly and safely is vital for your safety and the safety of others.

If cycling after dark, your bike must also be fitted with working lights and reflectors. Without these, other road users may not see you, even with streetlights, and your safety is at risk.