



**Gopeds
Mini Moto's
Go-carts
Quad Bikes
Dirt Bikes**

Safety Information for Parents and Young Riders

The basic safety checks that should be carried out are;

- **Check for loose nuts and bolts**
- **Condition of tyres**
- **Brakes**
- **Steering moves freely**
- **Frame is solid and has no fractures or damage**

Consideration should be given to the use of all the above machines, off road. Numerous complaints regarding the use of the above machines are received by the Police in relation to the noise and damage to other property that can occur.



Our partners, North Lanarkshire Council have recognised the issues surrounding the problems of where organised off road riding can legally take place. In conjunction with Strathclyde Police, North Lanarkshire Council has secured ground at Balbeckie, Harthill, where organised and supervised meetings now take place. The events are described by North Lanarkshire Council as being suitable for ages four to sixty.

North Lanarkshire Council also offers information evenings, which are designed to assist parents and young riders of all the previously mentioned machines. These evenings give instruction on the law, training and safety equipment relevant to young riders. Further details on the location of the courses and for all information regarding the Balbeckie events can be obtained from:

North Lanarkshire Scramble & Quad Bike Club,
Tel no. 01698 402090,
or by visiting their website on www.nlsqbc.com

This is a basic guide to assist parents and young riders of the above machines. Further information can be obtained from:

The Department for Transport website on
[www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_rdsafety/ documents/page/dft_rdsafety_039126.hcsp](http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_rdsafety/documents/page/dft_rdsafety_039126.hcsp)



Goped



Mini Moto



Go-Carts



Quad Bikes



Dirt Bikes



Mini Moto's Gopeds Go-carts Quad Bikes and Dirt Track Bikes/Scramblers

are considered by many people to be toys and as such they do not understand the laws surrounding their use. **It must be stressed that these machines are not toys and that Road Traffic Law controls the use of them.** If not used properly these machines can cause death and serious injury.

The following information is designed as a **basic guide for parents and the young riders of these machines.** Road Traffic Law is complex in relation to the use of these machines and the information contained in this document cannot be described as definitive.

A road in terms of Road Traffic Law also includes pavements, car parks and areas where the public have access, industrial estates, public play parks, footpaths and other recreational areas such as football pitches etc.

To ride a mechanically propelled vehicle on a road, the rider and machine **must be** road legal.

Any vehicle that can be legally used on a road must firstly be 'Type Approved' by the Department of Transport. This in turn allows the machine to be registered with the DVLA and a registration number issued to it.

If the machine is not 'Type Approved', a registration number cannot be issued by the DLA.



At present **Gopeds, Go-carts, and Mini Motos are not type approved.** Certain Quad Bikes and Dirt bikes may be 'Type Approved', however this basically means that the machine would need to comply with all the Laws relating to, tyres, lights, steering, brakes and horn etc.

If the machine is 'Type Approved' it can only be used on a road if the following apply;

The rider must be of an appropriate age to hold a Provisional Driving Licence for that particular machine

Before use on a road or public place the Rider must have obtained a Provisional Driving Licence

The vehicle must be insured

The vehicle must have an MOT if required

The vehicle must be taxed

The rider of a motorcycle must wear an approved safety helmet where the law dictates

If required, L'plates must be displayed.

In essence the use of Gopeds, Go-carts and Mini Motos on a road cannot be legal and the areas where the machines can be used are very limited. Examples of where



a machine can be used without complying with the above information would be a secure private garden or a secure private yard.

Strathclyde Police actively encourages the safe use of these vehicles, under the correct conditions, and with the correct equipment worn. **Riders of these vehicles must observe Road Traffic Law** in any public place. Children should be supervised at all times by an appropriate adult when these vehicles are used by them.

The basic safety equipment that should always be worn is;

**Safety helmet
Appropriate footwear
Appropriate clothing**

Parents to note- You are responsible for your child's use of such vehicles. You may be liable to charges under 'Cause and Permit' Road Traffic Laws and Child Protection Laws .

Strathclyde Police WILL seize any illegally used vehicles and take appropriate action.