

Providing space for Driving Trainers in car parks

The BPA and Driving Instructors Association (DIA) are working together to provide learner drivers with access to car parks, so that they can develop skills during their training which will reduce damage in car parks in the future.

Learner drivers will learn how to plan their parking before their trip, reducing journey time. They will practice how to enter and exit car parks, utilise the bays by practicing manoeuvres such as driving forward into a bay and reversing out of a bay, and reversing into a bay; including negotiating one-way systems.

This also creates an opportunity to inform learner drivers about car park management and the potential penalties for contravening the terms and conditions of use. Learner drivers will gain an understanding of the terms and conditions for parking, and operating models such as ANPR or pay and display.

By receiving greater training in a controlled environment with an instructor, that has access to the dual control pedals the learner is able to navigate the parking area better and the operator is able to ensure it is practiced safely.

A Charter

We believe in raising standards in both the drivers' instructors and the parking sector and in delivering a more professional service to the public. Providing the environment for learner drivers to develop their skills and confidence in using car parks needs to be seen in the context of delivering a better and fairer service to all users.

The BPA and DIA have created a Charter to help car park operators to provide a safe environment for learners and to ensure instructors teach appropriately and safely about car park use.

The objective of this agreement is that learner drivers need to be able to have access to car parks, in order for them to develop their skills as drivers, but provide operators with the opportunity to control this access.

Car park operators can support this by signing up their car parks to the BPA & DIA Charter [HERE](#).



Q-Park is helping to keep failure at bay with the DIA

Q-Park are already signed up and providing space for extra practice in their multi-storey car parks across the UK. DIA members are permitted to use participating Q-Park facilities to help coach new drivers and build confidence in bay parking skills. This scheme is available in the following cities:

- Birmingham - **Q-Park Brindleyplace**, 1 Brunswick St, Birmingham B1 2JF
- Cardiff - **Q-Park Cardiff Bay**, Pierhead Street, Cardiff CF10 4PH
- Edinburgh - **Q-Park OMNI**, Greenside Row, Edinburgh EH1 3AN
- Liverpool - **Q-Park Liverpool ONE**, 35 Strand St, Liverpool L1 8LT
- Nottingham - **Q-Park Talbot Street**, Talbot Street, Nottingham NG1 5GG
- Reading - **Q-Park Chatham Place**, 6 Chatham Place, Reading RG1 7JF

Common questions and tips for other operators

What operational matters have you had to consider?

None of the locations that we've chosen are managed using ANPR, as it will be difficult to white list all instructor number plates. The car parks we have chosen are all barrier and pull ticket locations.

The instructors show their badge on exit and we validate the ticket.

Have you experienced any problems?

No. We ask them to go to the area that is least populated, to prevent disturbance to customers and reserve the right to ask them to leave if it is too busy.