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## **Tasmanians of all ages benefit from RACT education programs**

The RACT is delivering more education programs across the State thanks to Tasmanian Government funding from the Road Safety Levy.

Community Manager Will Oakley said that with the additional funding, the organisation had been able to increase its programs to people of all ages across the state.

The organisation conducts a number of programs, including child restraint checks to educate parents and carers, RoadSafe for Grade 3 and 4 students, Dangers of Distraction for high schools and colleges and programs for older drivers.

“This financial year we have been able to educate more than 1100 Grade 3 and 4 students; more than 400 high school students; and more than 550 older drivers,” Mr Oakley said.

As part of National Road Safety Week, RACT is conducting education programs with students in the North-West, North and South of the state, as well as free child restraint checks in Hobart and Launceston.

Students from Deloraine Primary School participated in an education program today, and Our Lady of Mercy school and Ulverstone High School students will undertake activities tomorrow.

“It is critical that we educate these vulnerable road users about road safety. Children need to be able to make informed decisions about how they behave on and around our roads, and high school students require the tools to make better choices to stay safe on our roads,” Mr Oakley said.

For the older driver, the RACT offers CarFit, a free educational workshop that provides advice and information on how the driver and their car can "fit" together to maximise safety and comfort.

Trained professionals, including a qualified occupational therapist, go through a simple checklist, including if the driver is at a safe distance from the steering wheel and have adequate vision over the front of the car, if mirrors are adjusted to minimise a car's blind spots and if the seatbelt is fitted correctly and not providing any discomfort.

“The common thing about all of these programs is improving road safety, the RACT’s highest priority,” Mr Oakley said.

“These programs deliberately target a cross section of community members and aim to educate participants about road safety.”

Details about the RACT’s Road Safety Week activities can be found here:

<https://www.ract.com.au/road-safety-week2019>

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