Dr Cranky's
a bike for every child

Community Bike Checks

Getting more children and families riding.

A registered charity program delivered in partnership with schools, local councils and communities.

About Dr Cranky's

Dr Cranky's is a registered charity working with local councils, schools, and communities to ensure everyone has access to a safe, working bike. We check and repair bikes on the spot, teach basic maintenance skills, and provide recycled bikes to those who need them.

Why Community Bike Checks?

- A free, on-the-spot safety check and minor repair
- Builds the confidence to get back on the bike
- Hands-on learning — participants can try simple repairs themselves
- Delivered at council-run and local settings — leisure, community and youth centres or local parks, libraries and spaces
- Recycled bikes available for those that need them

8,000+
children given access to a safe, working bike

126
sites reached

700,000+
extra bike rides generated per year

12,900+
community connections made

8 more rides a month. Follow-up surveys show participants ride an average of eight more times a month — roughly twice a week more — after a Community Bike Check, based on before-and-after surveys.

How It Works

What Happens at a Session

2–3 hours · weekends or weekday afternoons

Sessions are usually held at council-run properties — leisure centres, community centres or youth centres. Bikes are checked and minor repairs made where feasible: adjusting brakes and gears, fitting bells, pumping tyres, oiling chains, tightening wheel nuts and skewers, and adjusting and tightening headsets and stems. If any issues remain, the owner is given a report to take to their local bike shop.

Capacity: Allowing 20 minutes per bike plus a little leeway, we can usually complete around 24 bikes in a 3-hour session.

Please note: we can't check the electronics of electric bikes, or service hydraulic disc brakes.

Learning by doing

Participants are encouraged to watch the mechanics at work — they'll explain what they're doing and let participants try minor repairs themselves under supervision, using the tools provided. Installing a bell, adjusting gears and pumping tyres are all things people can easily pick up during a session.

What's Included

- Mechanics, plus parts, tools and workstands
- A marquee, if required for the venue
- Full reporting and monitoring
- Recycled bikes available for those that need them

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Want a Community Bike Check in your area?

Get in touch to find out how to bring a session to your local venue.

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