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 schools, local councils, 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?

- Free, on-the-spot safety checks and minor repairs for participants
- Builds people's 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 who need them

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

120+
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.

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 with three staff.

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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