

Dear parent

On **Wednesday 4th December** a former world champion scooter rider Terry Price from BMX, Skate & Scoot Academy will be visiting school to deliver stunt scooter workshops and an assembly.

Your child has been invited to take part in the workshops which include the basics of stunt scootering and some simple tricks.

Scooters and helmets will be provided for every child. If your child wishes to bring their own scooter or helmet that is acceptable.

Children will need to wear trainers, PE kit and clothing appropriate for current temperatures. No skirts or loose clothing please. **Any long hair must be tied in a low pony tail or plait** to ensure helmets fit snug around the head.

The workshops include low level tricks which are achievable, yet allow children to challenge themselves, taking small risks to build confidence and self belief.

Please let the school know if your child is unable to ride a two wheeled scooter. If they have their own 3 wheel scooter they are welcome to bring it along to use.

Any activity using scooters does carry a risk. All efforts are made to ensure the workshop is safe and enjoyable for all participants. By signing below you agree to your child taking part in the workshop, accepting all risks outlined in the risk assessment below.

Childs name

Childs class

Your name

Signed

Date/...../.....

School Scooter Workshop Risk Assessment

The instructor will oversee the participants and advise them on safe use of the scooters and equipment on a hard court, school playground or other smooth tarmac surface. Scooters and helmets are provided and are well maintained and regularly checked to ensure safe functioning.

Risks common to General Scooter workshop participation are low as the majority of work is ground based with basic movements and small jumps less than 50cm high. The risks inherent are as follows:

- **Weather** A damp floor or short/light rain shower can effect grip levels and restrict scooter activities taking place. The instructor will monitor the hazard level relative to the quantity of rain and water on the surface being ridden and make decisions accordingly. If conditions worsen they will pause the activity to wait for a break in the weather or move to an indoor space such as a school hall. It is recommended that a 'back up' indoor space such as a school hall or gym is organised on the day of the visit in case weather conditions restrict outdoor scooting.
- **Surface** conditions can pose a risk to grip levels. Ideally a smooth, flat, hard surfaced area is required. Loose gravel, stones, pot holes/gaps or mud on the surface can cause hazards to grip levels when scooting and possibly cause a crash and injury. The instructor will endeavour to check and clear the area before any workshop to reduce this risk. A sloping playground is not usually a problem, however it can add an extra risk with participants gaining speed when travelling down hill. Instructors will seek to set the track up in the safest direction avoiding stationary objects and choosing the smoothest path wherever possible.
- **Mechanical failure** typically: brakes, wheels or other structural failure of the scooter is a low risk as equipment is maintained and fit for heavy use. The position of the participant should any mechanical failure occur can effect the risk. As general scooting in this workshop is mostly ground based participants would generally come to a stationary stop. There is a risk inherent to any crash that the participant may be thrown from the scooter. In this instance the most common parts of the body to absorb the initial impact are hands, knees, elbows, feet and head. Participants are instructed how to use the brakes on their scooter before moving from a stationary position and what safety actions to take if they feel like they are about to fall. Catching clothing on a part of the scooter such as the handlebars also poses a risk. The instructor will request loose clothing be removed, replaced or tied back to minimise this risk.
- **Misjudgements** in balance and spatial awareness by the participants while scooting can cause a crash. 'Looping out' falling off the back of the scooter can be a risk if participants lean back too far when scooting. Participants are advised to lean forwards at all times with chest above handlebars to avoid this. Misjudging speed and grip levels when cornering can cause wheels to 'slide out'. To avoid this, the pace of scooting is kept slow at first to allow participants to become accustomed to grip levels. To reduce the risk of misjudgements, tricks are broken down into 'bitesize' parts and demonstrated before participants try each one. All participants are advised to use the rear brake or feet on the floor to slow and stop the scooter in clear space in the event of any problem.
- **Collisions** and potential crashes can arise from participants colliding with an obstacle, hard or soft, static or moving, or crossing the path with another rider or spectator. In this instance of a collision the risks are the same as those in any regular crash, outlined above, except for an increased risk of landing on top of another scooter, obstacle or participant. Injury is more likely in such a crash due to a participant landing on parts which stick out of the other scooter or of a body or head collision with the other participant. To reduce the risk of collision, participants ride around a 'one way' track, spaced apart for the majority of the workshop. Spectators will be kept at a safe distance.
- **Neglect by the participant** of any guidance given by instructor can create a risk of injury. For example not following instructions and exact steps explained for safe scooting like leaning forwards and covering the brake. The guidance is given verbally and demonstrated physically to allow participants the chance to see and understand. However, if through their own actions participants choose to disregard the instructions given or do not pay attention, the likelihood of a crash occurring is higher.

BMX Academy Limited will endeavour to minimise all risks within control and guide participants safely through a gradual 'step by step' technique to learning tricks. However, it must be noted that stunt scooting, by its nature, is a risky activity with the possibility of accidents and physical injury. No matter how careful the participants and organisers are, no matter what equipment is worn, ramp, slope or obstacle being used, the risks cannot be entirely eliminated. By taking part the participant and parent accept all risks entirely and responsibility for the participants actions.