



INFORMATION SHEET

The **Wheel Talk School Awareness Program** conducts visits with thousands of students each year, promoting the benefits of an active sporting life. Furthermore it raises awareness, encourages acceptance and integration of wheelchair sport and creates a greater understanding of people with disabilities.

Another main issue that **Wheel Talk** responds to is that 16 to 24 year olds are over-represented in car crashes for a variety of reasons, including speeding, drugs and drink driving.

Fully trained and experienced Wheelchair Sports Victoria (WSV) presenters speak of how their lives have been enriched and overcome adversity in order to get where they are today. The presenter will also highlight the importance of keeping an active lifestyle through sport and recreation.

Our presenters go directly into schools and community groups and talk with youth and about the benefits of sport for all, injury prevention including driving behaviours and the way to increase their own road safety decision making. The presentation increases physical disability awareness and shows the consequences of poor choices with risk taking behaviours highlighting that it can happen to anyone.

This point is further reinforced with a game of wheelchair basketball, where the students are given the unique opportunity to experience wheelchair sports for themselves by competing in a game of wheelchair basketball. This enables the students to feel what it's like to be in a wheelchair, if only temporarily as they are able to walk away after the game. All of this makes the **Wheel Talk School Awareness Program** an innovative and unique program designed to access primary and secondary school students across Victoria.

To ensure your visit is a success there are a number of things we like to let you know:

1. The **Wheel Talk** sessions are based on 1.5 hour sessions, which includes; a presentation and activity component.
2. Our sessions are conducted daily and our first session each day strictly commences no earlier than 9.30am and the last session must finish by 3:30pm, unless otherwise arranged with the Program Coordinator.
3. We ask for a donation of not less than \$200 for the 1st session each day (up to 1½ hours) and not less than \$150 for each subsequent 1½ hours we are at your school on the same day. For a full day, 9.30am - 3.30pm, we give a discount and would ask for a donation of \$500. For regional visits there is an extra \$50 added per day visit to cover petrol costs. We can issue you with an invoice and tax deductible receipt at the end of the month.

4. This donation will only cover our overheads including upkeep on our vehicles, chair maintenance, Presenters Fee and travel costs. It is these donations that are the lifeblood of our curriculum and we rely heavily on them to allow us to ensure the programs longevity. It is imperative to understand that this is not a profit making program and is purely for the benefit of students and to raise awareness of Wheelchair Sports, spinal cord injury prevention and the benefit of an active lifestyle.
5. Attached is a worksheet that has been designed to educate the students about topics which will be raised during our visit. Students will need to use tools such as the Wheelchair Sports Victoria website to find the answers to complete the worksheet. The worksheet will not be utilised directly during the session, though students may ask questions from it. We ask that the students complete the worksheet prior to our visit.
6. Attached also are teacher & student evaluation forms. We ask that these are filled out and returned to us as soon as possible after the visit. This is extremely important to us as it allows us to continually upgrade our program to keep it interesting and informative.

Wheelchair Sports Victoria – About Us

WSV is the leader in providing sporting opportunities to people with disabilities in Victoria.

Objectives of the Wheel Talk:

- ✚ To raise awareness of disability sport in Victoria
- ✚ Encourage safer driving habits
- ✚ Point out dangers of drinking/drug taking, poor decision making and risk taking in every day life
- ✚ Create a greater understanding of people with disabilities and spinal cord injury
- ✚ Encourage integration and participation by all

Wheel Talk Description:

Each session comprises the following:

- ✚ Presentation by wheelchair athletes
- ✚ Question time
- ✚ Wheelchair basketball activity

Direct benefits for your school or group:

- ✚ Spinal injury awareness
- ✚ Provides motivation and inspiration
- ✚ Exposure to wheelchair athletes
- ✚ Thought provoking injury prevention education
- ✚ Understanding sport for people with disabilities
- ✚ Fun and excitement

Who can use the program?

Primary schools, Secondary schools, Tertiary students, Corporate groups, Community groups, Youth groups, Sporting groups.

Format of the program:

Up to 150 students for presentation and a maximum 30 students for the activity component per session. Wheelchairs are provided.

Thank-you once again and we hope that our visit is as enjoyable for you as it is for us.

If you need further information please do not hesitate to contact us on:

Phone: (03) 9473 0133 or email Adriana: wheeltalk@wsv.org.au