

Road Safety in Virtual Reality

Students from Foster and Korumburra Secondary Colleges came together on Tuesday 29 April to watch the 3D, virtual reality videos they filmed together in 2024. The road safety videos focused on the dangers of in-car distractions while driving. The screening event was a culmination of two months' work, which took place a year earlier and included making storylines and scripts for the videos. Virtual Reality was used for the development of the videos because of its immersive nature, placing viewers directly in the driver's seat.

Traditional road safety campaigns are created by adults and often don't resonate with young people. This project enables students to create peer-to-peer safety messages. It also encourages young people to reflect on how they can personally reduce their chances of accident or injury on the road.

Funding for the program came from a grant from the Department of Transport and Planning's Community Road Safety Program, and was facilitated by South Gippsland Shire Council and Mindflight7.

Quote attributable to Tony Peterson, Acting CEO of South Gippsland Shire Council

"Driving safely is an essential skill for all young people to learn. This project uses technology to immerse students in the driving environment, showing first-hand how to reduce distractions in the car. It's fantastic that this program also supports conversations between young people about how they can contribute to staying safe on the road."

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