

The new integrated Road Safety Scotland (RSS) website is launching in early 2019 and will provide a valuable and all-encompassing digital learning resource to keep children safe on Scottish roads.

Julian French, Head of Planning at The Gate, has been managing the project to integrate the former nine RSS websites into a single resource for teachers, pupils and parents. He said: "Previously, there were nine separate websites that were aimed at different audiences, so we are refining the content into one single resource to reduce duplication and to provide a greater user experience."

As a former teacher, Julian was keen to take a pedagogic approach to refining the content so that the resources would both support the Road Safety Framework and Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence

NEW WEBSITE IS FULL OF JOINED-UP THINKING

Julian French, from The Gate, says single online resource will teach children about road safety



(CfE). He explained: "We've put everything in one space and created a joined-up learning resource for a range of age groups, from early years up to young adults, which is designed to work in synergy with CfE by adopting a 'learning activity' format which highlights topics and learning outcomes.

"We hope that this will help make road safety a core part of learning, rather than just a passing theme such as during Road

Safety Week. It's important to educate our young people now so that they become safe and responsible road users for the future – this fits in the Priority Focus Areas in the Road Safety Framework strategy to 2020.

"The new website will offer a much improved user experience to help educators and parents engage children in road safety learning that will last a lifetime."

WEBSITE STATS

3 WEBSITES AUDITED

400 PAGES AUDITED AND CATEGORISED

225 INTERACTIVE RESOURCES AUDITED



SURVIVOR'S STORY IS AN INSPIRATION TO OTHERS

Angela McShane is using her experience to help other accident victims battle back

If there was one presentation at the seminar that brought home the importance of road safety it was Angela McShane's inspirational story of how she rebuilt her life after suffering appalling injuries from a hit and run incident. Angela now travels around the world promoting the road safety message through her 'Reinvention' mission.

After getting off a bus, the nursery nurse was hit by a speeding van at 70mph driven in a 30mph zone by a young man under the influence of drugs and alcohol, and with no insurance or driver's licence. Angela was thrown through the air and landed in a ditch. Even though the driver initially stopped, he quickly drove away without helping her or phoning the emergency services.

Her body was smashed and broken and doctors believed she would not be able to

walk, let alone live a normal independent life again. She spent the first year in a hospital bed and during the years of subsequent treatment and rehabilitation she had to learn to do things that abled bodied people take for granted. However, her determination to recover and live an independent life paid off and although she has difficulty with mobility she now travels around the UK and overseas to tell her story of recovery.

She created a community interest company called 'The Reinvention' and her mission is to spread the understanding of what accident victims and their families go through and to help others fight back from adversity.

She visits schools, businesses and families in hospital as well as other events to talk about her experiences and to let others share their experiences of road accidents. She also helps

support Police Scotland and the Scottish Government road safety marketing campaigns.

"I'm turning my pain into my passion," she explained, "and sharing my story to inspire and help others understand the road safety message. The Reinvention is born out of the past but always looking to the future. It is a community to provide support, advice and assistance to those who have experienced a life-changing injury of their own. It is also for the families, friends and loved ones of those coming to terms with their injuries."

She added: "I have defied the doctors and I am walking and have got over adversity.

"I used to be scared to go out in public after the incident but as time has gone on my confidence has grown and I feel safer. I can see that the work I am doing with The Reinvention is helping people understand, but while we still have a lot of work ahead of us I know that together we are making a difference. That's why the work that Road Safety Scotland is doing with its partners is so important – you are all helping to save lives and making a huge difference."

For more information, visit <https://triumphoverinjury.com>