



How To Read Road Signs - Queens

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
Queens Roundabout Farnborough.....	3
Farnborough to Test Centre	3
Test Centre to North Camp	9
Test Centre to Aldershot	15
Aldershot to North Camp	23
Aldershot to Farnborough.....	30
North Camp to Test Centre	35
North Camp to Farnborough	42





Introduction

Ah, Queens roundabout in Farnborough; some people hate it, some love it.

This document is supposed to explain how to navigate the roundabout successfully from different angles.

There are other documents on my website about how to read road signs, one for general rules and one about roundabouts. If there's anything in here that you are unsure of then you should refer to those documents.

Don't forget that you should still read:

The Highway Code <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/traffic-signs>
and

Know Your Traffic Signs (free download on my website) or
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/know-your-traffic-signs>

Please note that most of these pictures in this document are taken from Google Maps and so some are slightly distorted due to how they overlay the images.

If you see HC, I am referring to the Highway Code, if you see KYTS I am referring to Know Your Road Signs.



Queens Roundabout Farnborough

Farnborough to Test Centre



Plan in advance! You should be thinking about what lane to approach in, what lane to leave in etc. The test centre is Right 3 and therefore looking at that sign on the right, it doesn't talk about anything in particular on the right. I am therefore thinking default driving of approaching in the right lane. I can also see traffic lights in the distance, so therefore I am expecting up arrows on the floor rather than arrows pointing to the right.

It is worth noting that the A325 is Ahead 2 and the A3011 is Left 1.



The sign and road markings are talking about the A3011 and A325, I haven't been told to follow either so I ignore them and just go into lane 3 for turning right (make sure you blind spot check to do

a lane change). Sometimes the Satnav just says “3rd exit”, sometimes the examiner says “Aerospace Centre”; it’s all just Right 3 though so it really doesn’t matter.



As expected, there are up arrows on the floor because of the traffic lights but I still use the right hand lane to turn right because that’s default driving!! I indicate to enter the 3rd lane but once in it, I don’t need to indicate on the roundabout because it doesn’t benefit anyone.



Follow the right hand lane and count off your exits as you go. Exit 1 coming up on the left. I’m going to exit 3 so I’m looking to spiral to the outside of the roundabout as I pass exit 2 and approach 3.



Staying in the right lane I approach traffic lights and exit 2.



You can see that the left of my lane goes down the dual carriageway and the right continues around the roundabout. This means that my one lane becomes four lanes. I can now position myself in any of the four lanes.



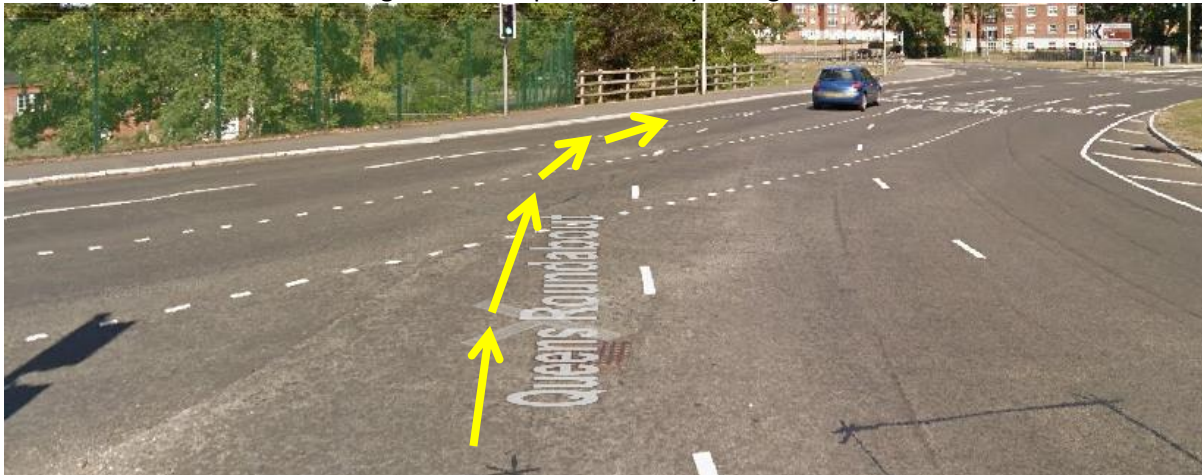
I want the left lane as I approach exit 3 in default driving.

The sign on my right confirms the default driving that the business park needs the left hand lane. Just do a few blind spot checks on your left and go wide like you're heading off down the dual carriageway; turn into your left lane after the second exit.





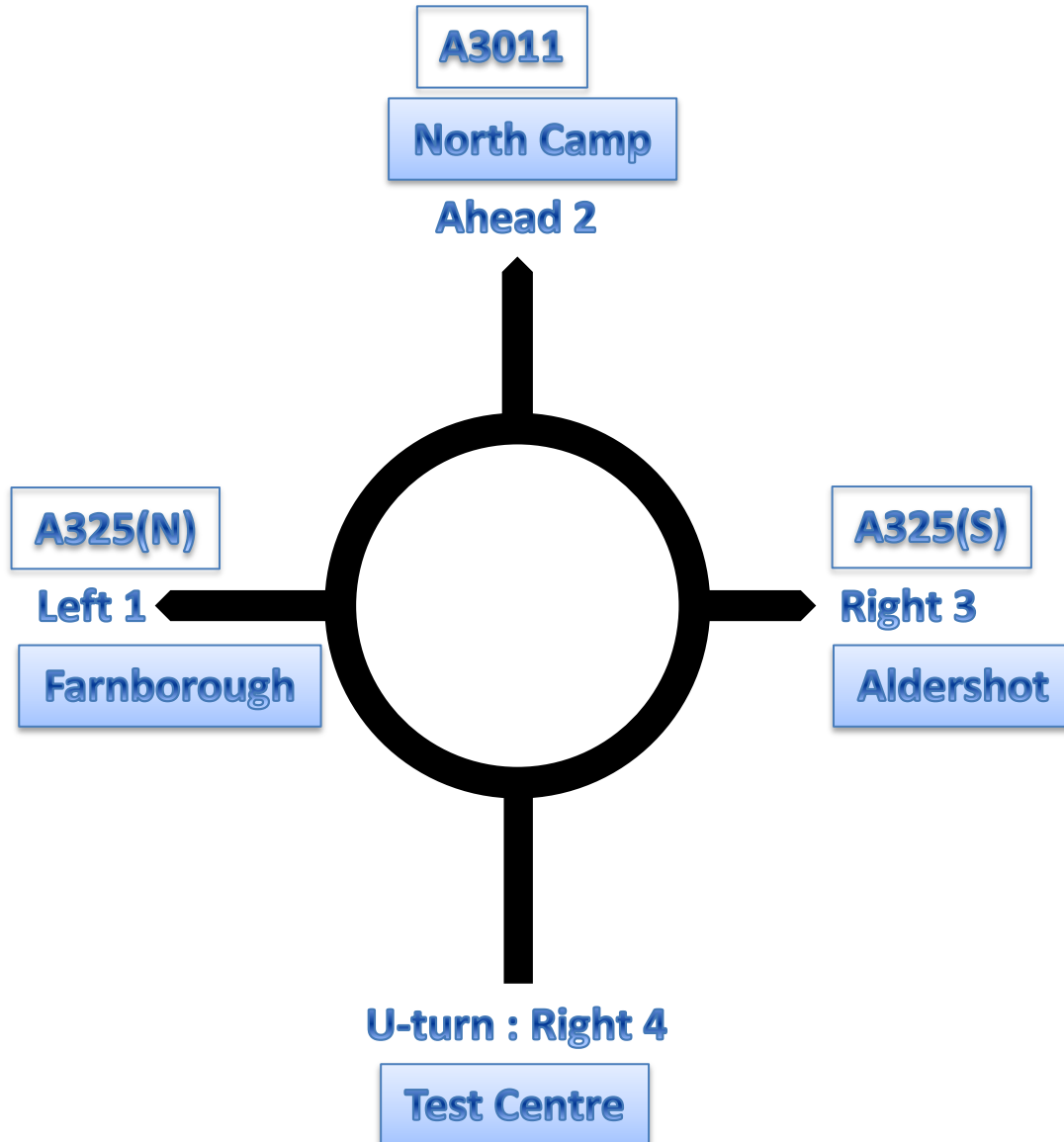
Follow the left hand lane making sure to keep the line on your right.



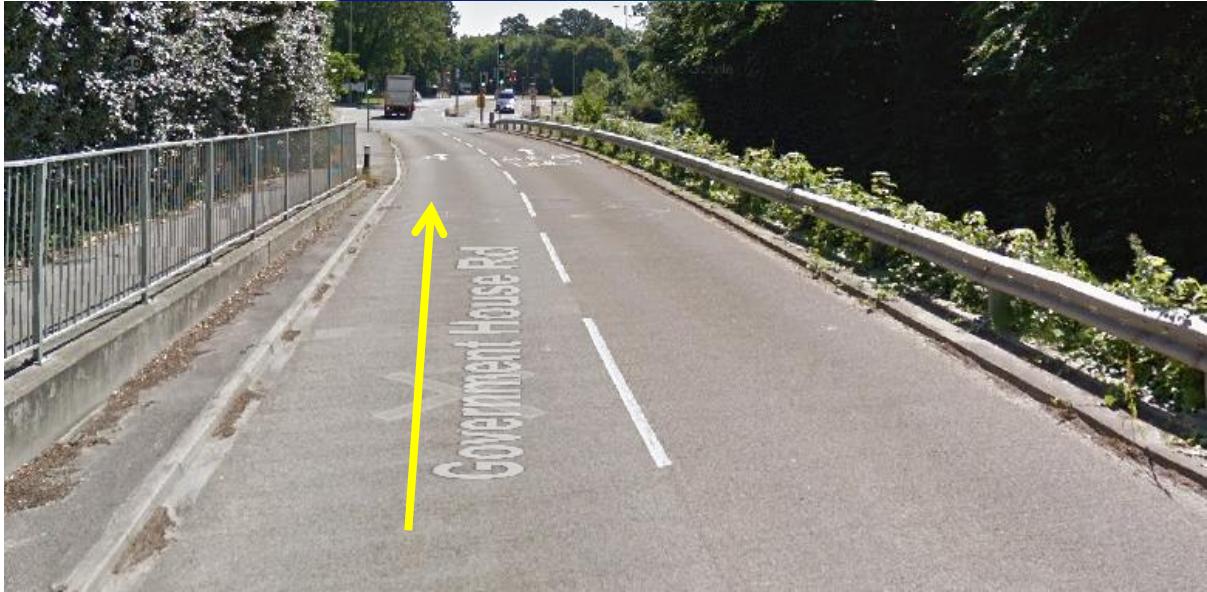


Test Centre to North Camp

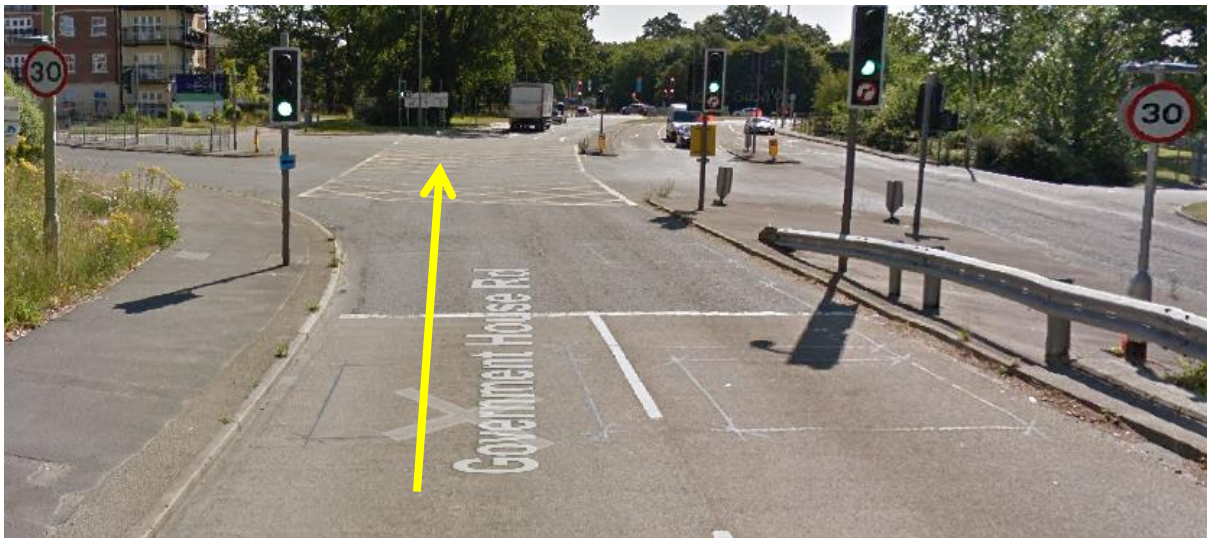
Ahead of us is the Queens roundabout. It is basically a crosshair where left to right is the A325 and ahead is the A3011.



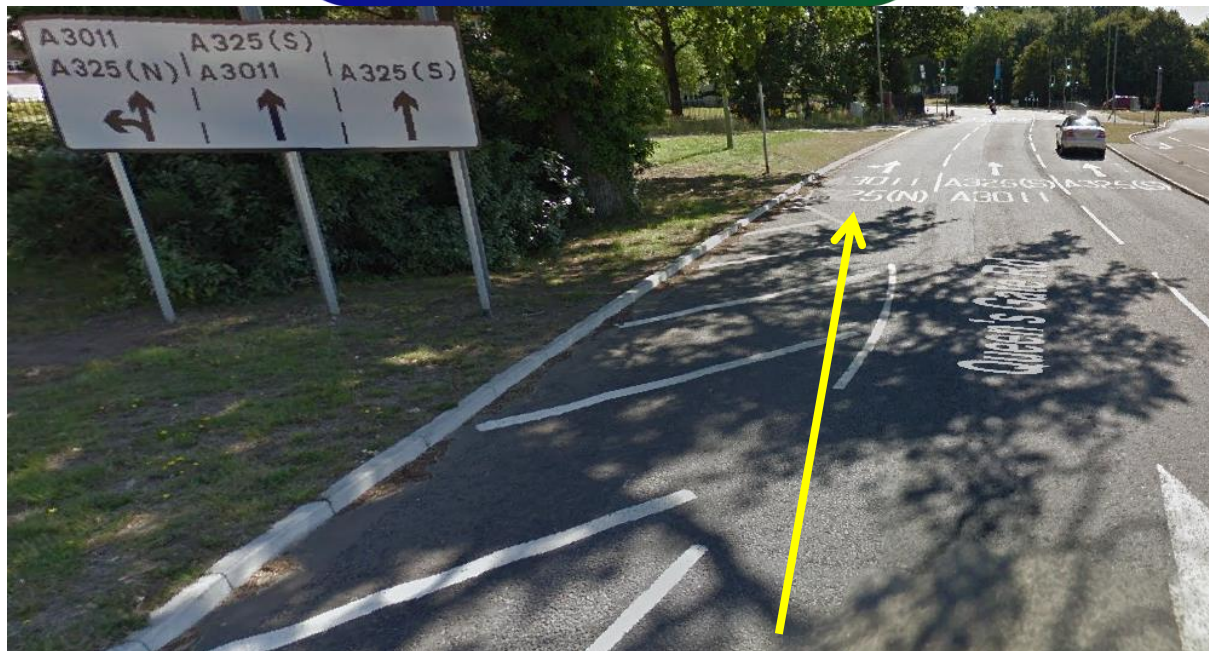
Note that left and right are marked as northbound or southbound.



Approaching the traffic lights leaving the trading estate, we are going ahead and therefore will be in the left hand lane.



As you get to the traffic lights you will see that the speed limit changes to 30MPH; we stay on the left.

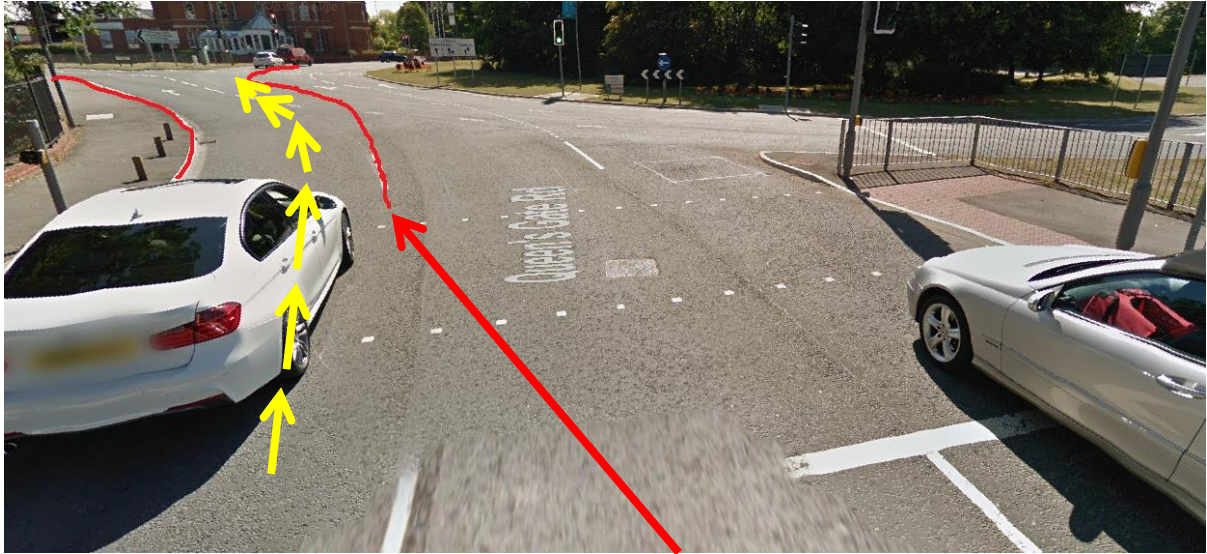


The left lane is marked as going left and ahead. The left must be for the first exit, the adjoining up arrow must therefore be for the second exit.

We know the A325 goes left to right and they have marked the A325 as North-bound and South-bound on this sign. The North must be left, the South must be right. This makes the A3011 ahead therefore.

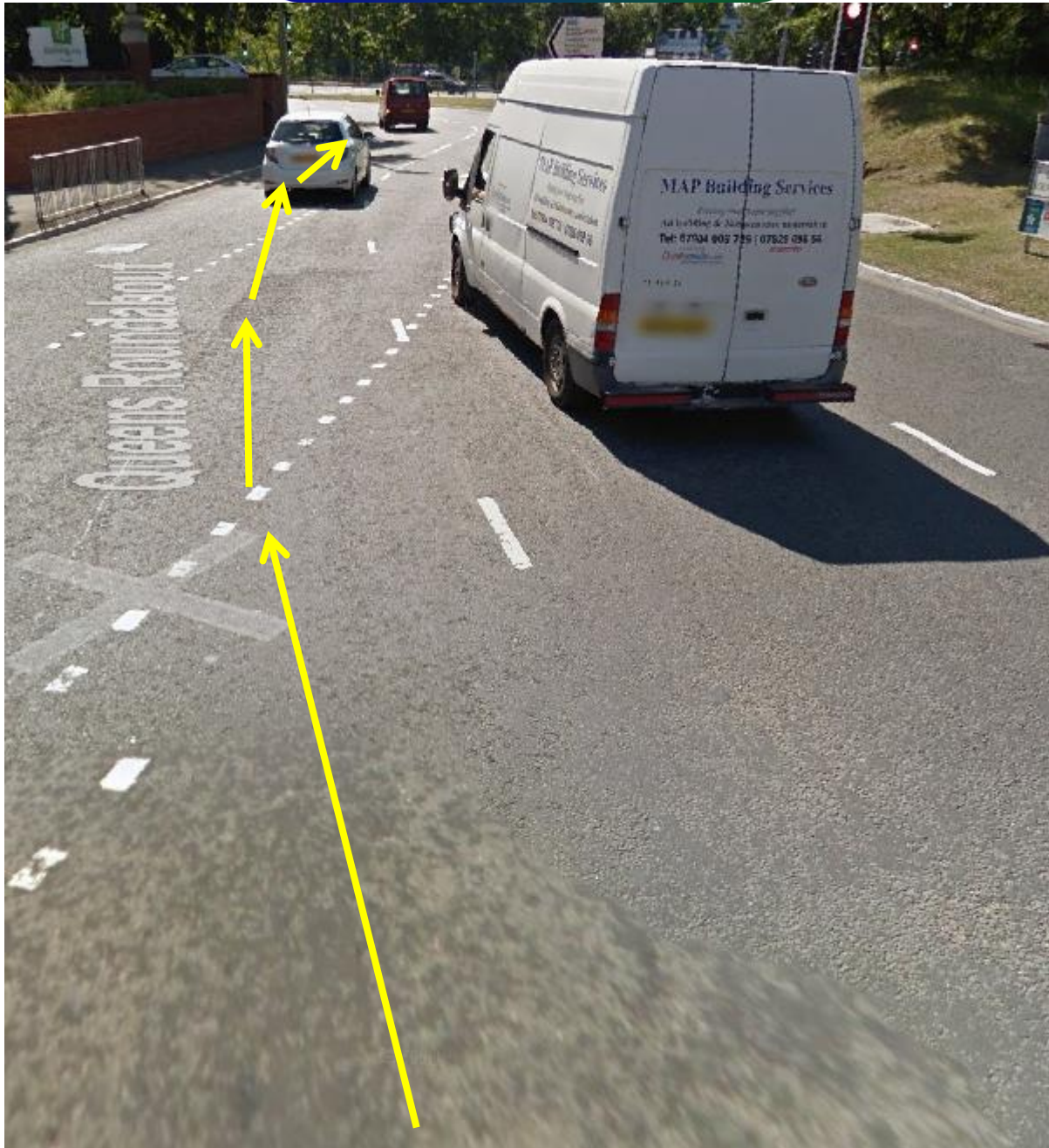
Because I am going ahead, I now know that I can use lanes 1 or 2. Because we drive on the left by default and that the fact that you should return to the left when you leave a roundabout, it makes sense just to stay in the left lane throughout the whole journey. I will choose the left lane.

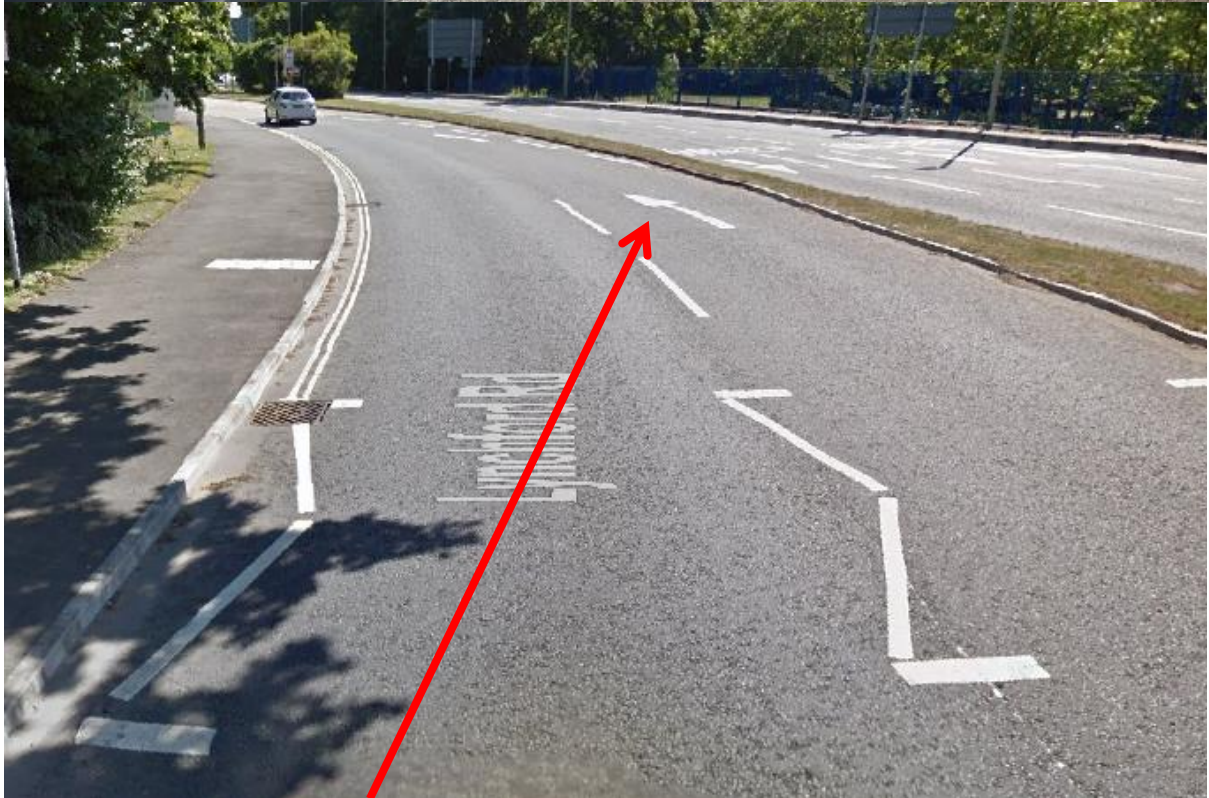
Notice that there is a hashed area on the left just before the left lane. This has a broken white line around it and therefore you are allowed to drive through it if safe to do so. As you are entering a lane at the start, you do not need to indicate. If you drive into the middle lane and then lane change to the left, you will need to indicate and blind spot check.



The left lane breaks left and ahead, so just keep the line on your right and follow the lane to the second exit.



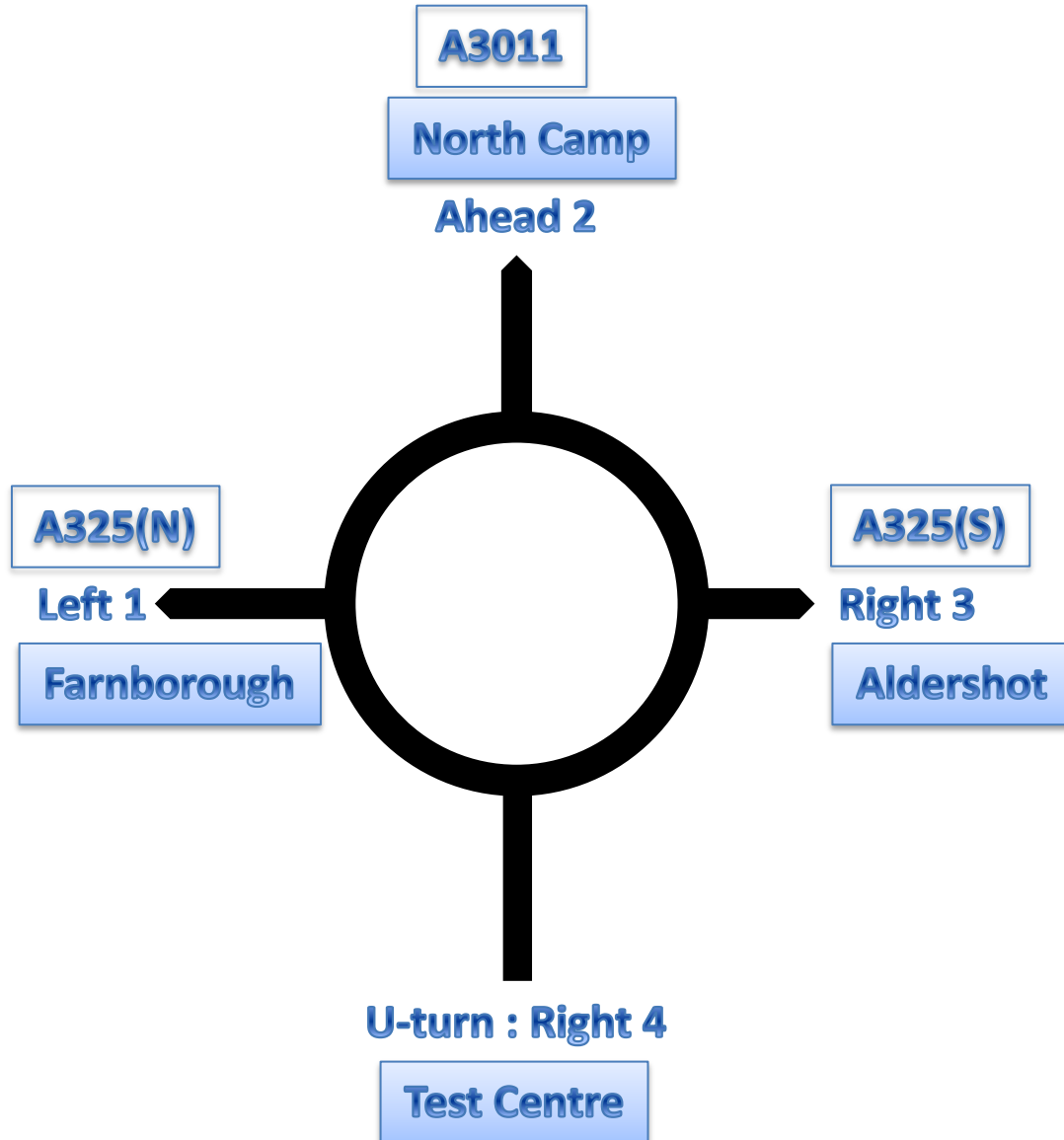




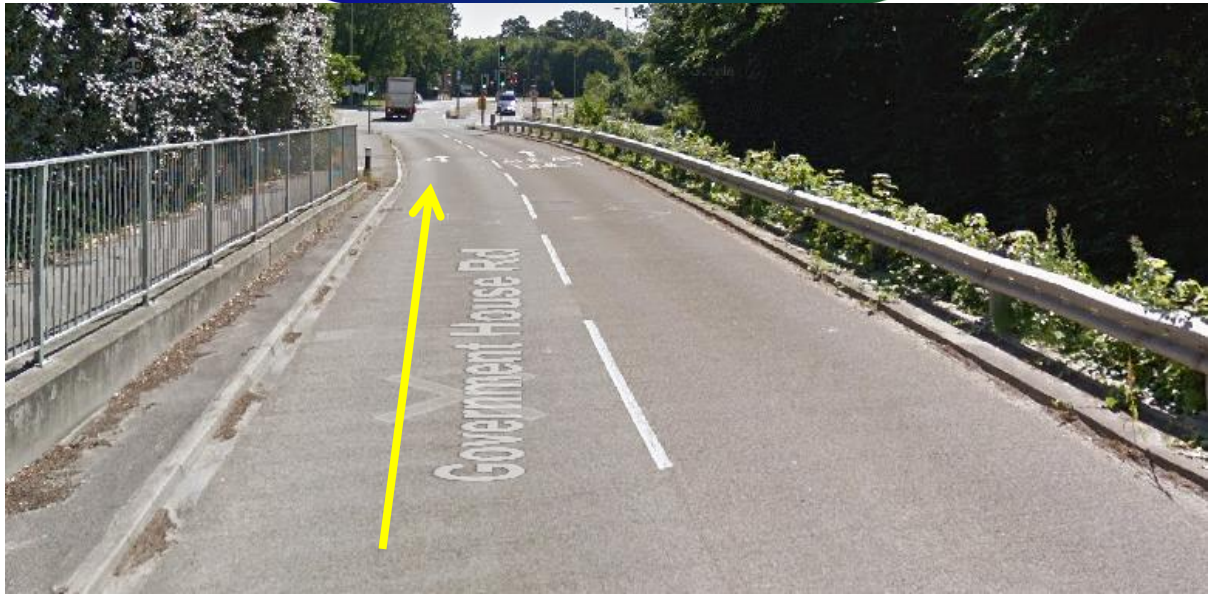
Two lanes merging back into one therefore do a blind spot check on your right for cars merging into your lane and adapt speed to cater for it.

Test Centre to Aldershot

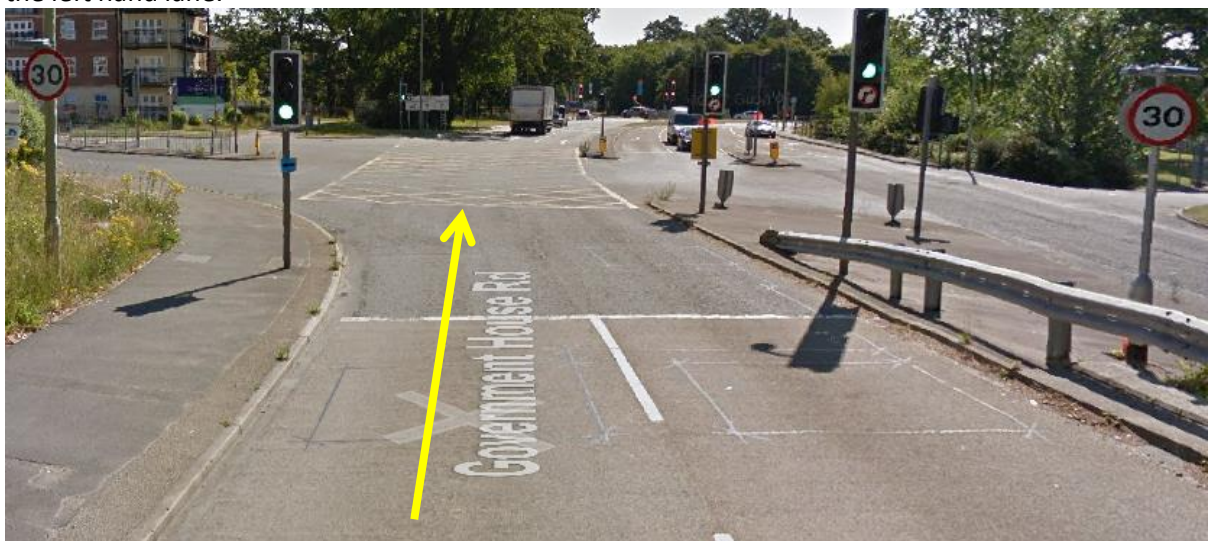
Ahead of us is the Queens roundabout. It is basically a crosshair where left to right is the A325 and ahead is the A3011.



Note that left and right are marked as northbound or southbound.



Approaching the traffic lights leaving the trading estate, we are going ahead and therefore will be in the left hand lane.



As you get to the traffic lights you will see that the speed limit changes to 30MPH; we stay on the left.



The left lane is marked as going left and ahead. The left must be for the first exit, the adjoining up arrow must therefore be for the second exit.

We know the A325 goes left to right and they have marked the A325 as North-bound and South-bound on this sign. The North must be left, the South must be right. This makes the A3011 ahead therefore.

Because I am going Right 3, I now know that I can use lanes 2 or 3. Because we drive on the left by default and that the fact that you should return to the left when you leave a roundabout, it makes sense just to stay in the left most lane of the lanes that go right throughout the whole journey. I will choose the middle lane (lane 2).

When you get to this roundabout, you might be instructed by the examiner:

'Turn right third exit please'

'Turn right third exit on the A325'

'Turn right third exit on the A325 south'

The Satnav might just say

'Go around the roundabout third exit'

'Go around the roundabout exit 3 on the A325'

The Satnav will also display the road number on the top of the screen so you can work out that you're looking for the A325 if you aren't sure.



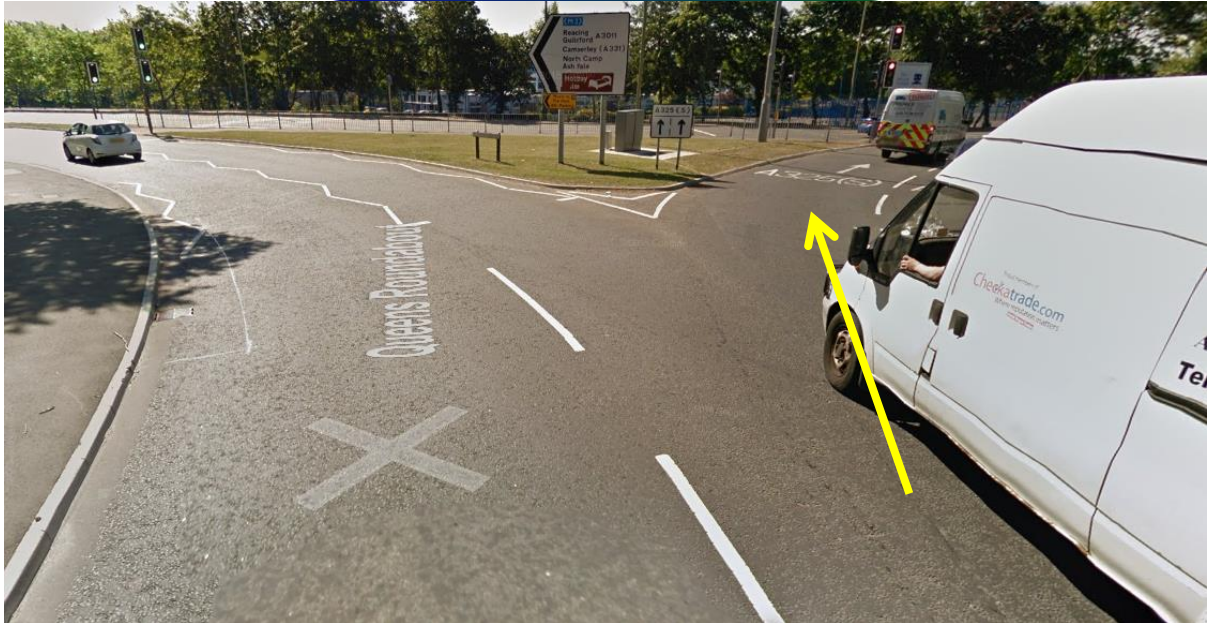
Floor markings confirm A325(S) is lane 2 and 3 so just stay in lane 2.



Exit 1 on our left, we want exit 3. Sign on right confirms we are still in the correct lane.



Exit 2 coming up on our left, we want 3. Just stay in your lane.



Lane breaks left to exit 2 or right for exit 3, we want 3.



Sign on left confirms that A325(S) is both lanes so take the left most.





Aldershot and the A325(S) are on your left. Note there has been no change in speed limit so it's still 30mph.



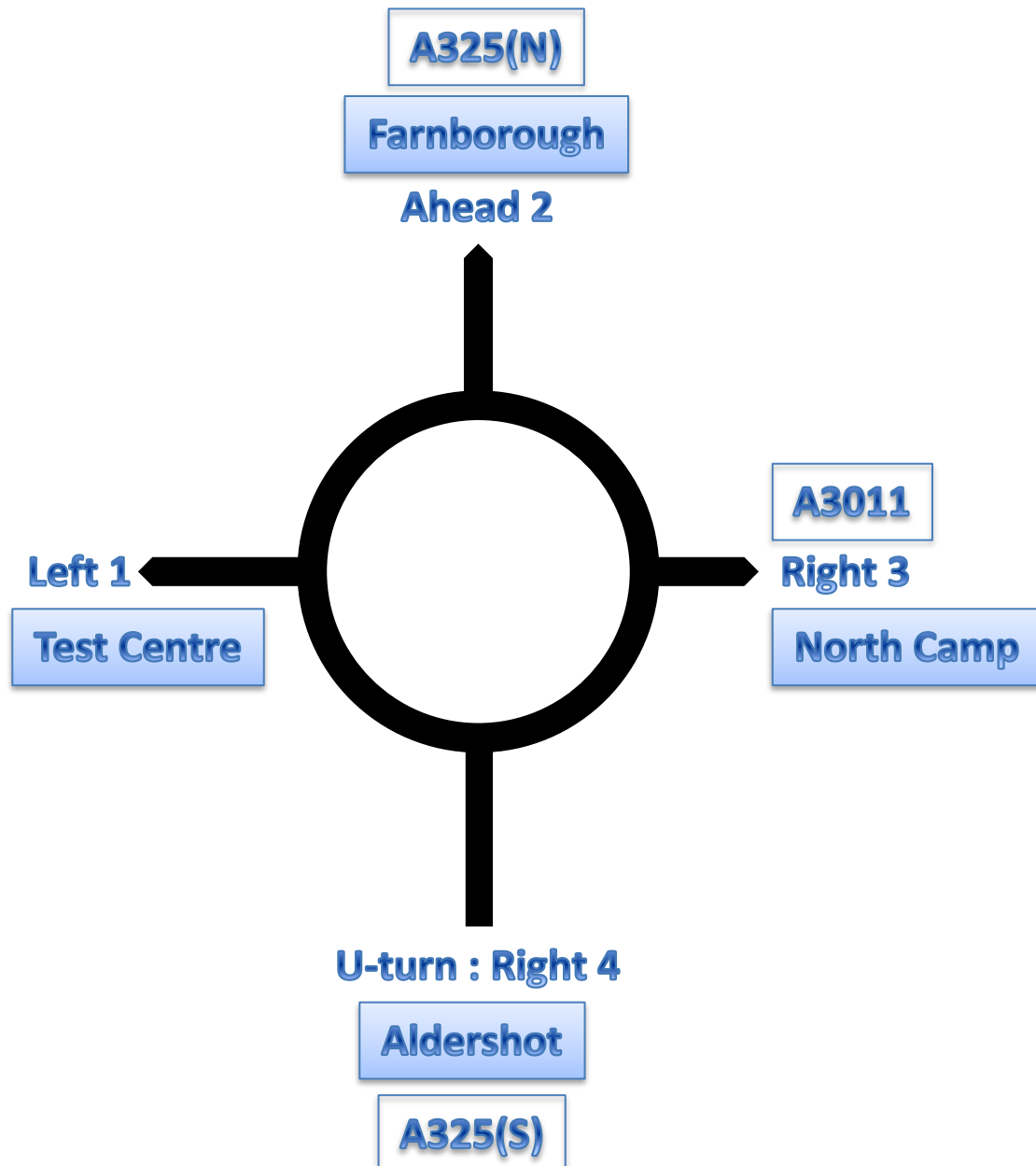
You have to go a long way until it becomes a 50mph.



And even longer until it becomes a 60mph.

Aldershot to North Camp

Ahead of us is the Queens roundabout. It is basically a crosshair where ahead and behind is the A325, left is the test centre and right is the A3011





Let's assume that we don't know where North Camp is yet.
Default driving means that we should stay in the left lane unless we know better.

We are entering a 30mph zone so you should aim to be doing no more than 30mph about 3 car lengths short and entering the 30 Zone in the correct gear.



The road sign states that North Camp is right 3 on the A3011 (because it's not in brackets); immediately get into the right hand lane. (The first exit is hidden behind the lamp post in this picture).



There's nothing in here of any interest to us; just stay in lane.

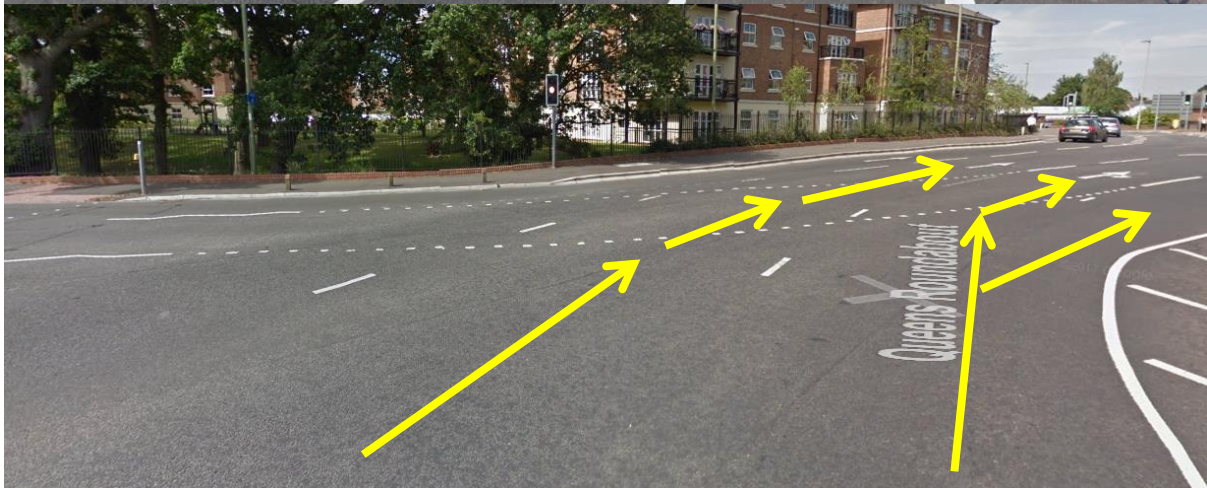
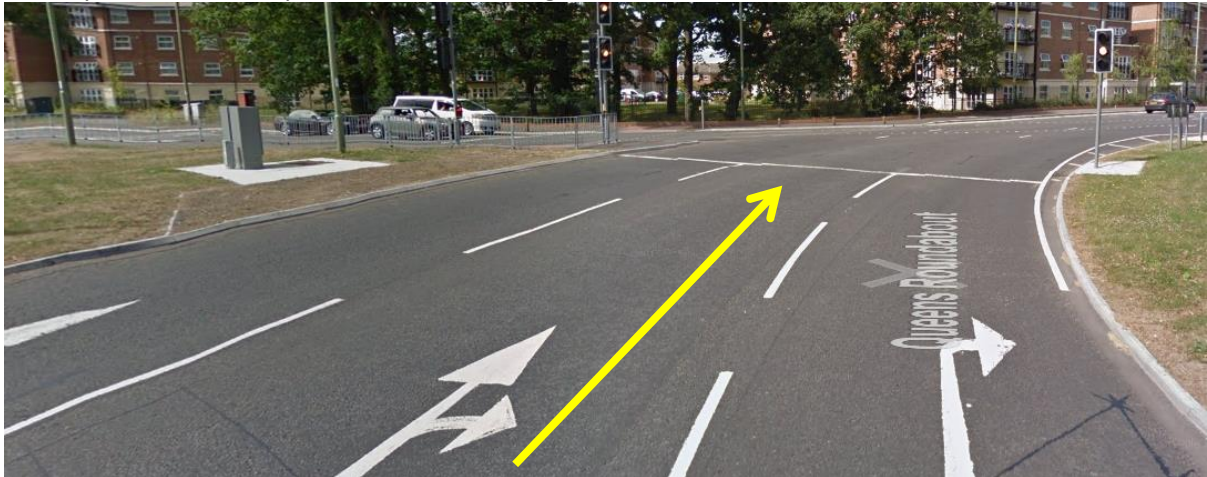


This states that the A3011 is in lanes 3 and 4; immediately get into lane 3. Because 3 and 4 go to the same place, we take the left most of the two.





Count your exits; the top left is the first exit; ignore it.



Notice lane 3 splitting into two lanes itself.



Top left is exit 2; we want 3. You want the outside of a roundabout when approaching your exit if you can so we want the outside. The road sign on the right confirms that lanes 1 and 2 are now the A3011 so take the left most lane.



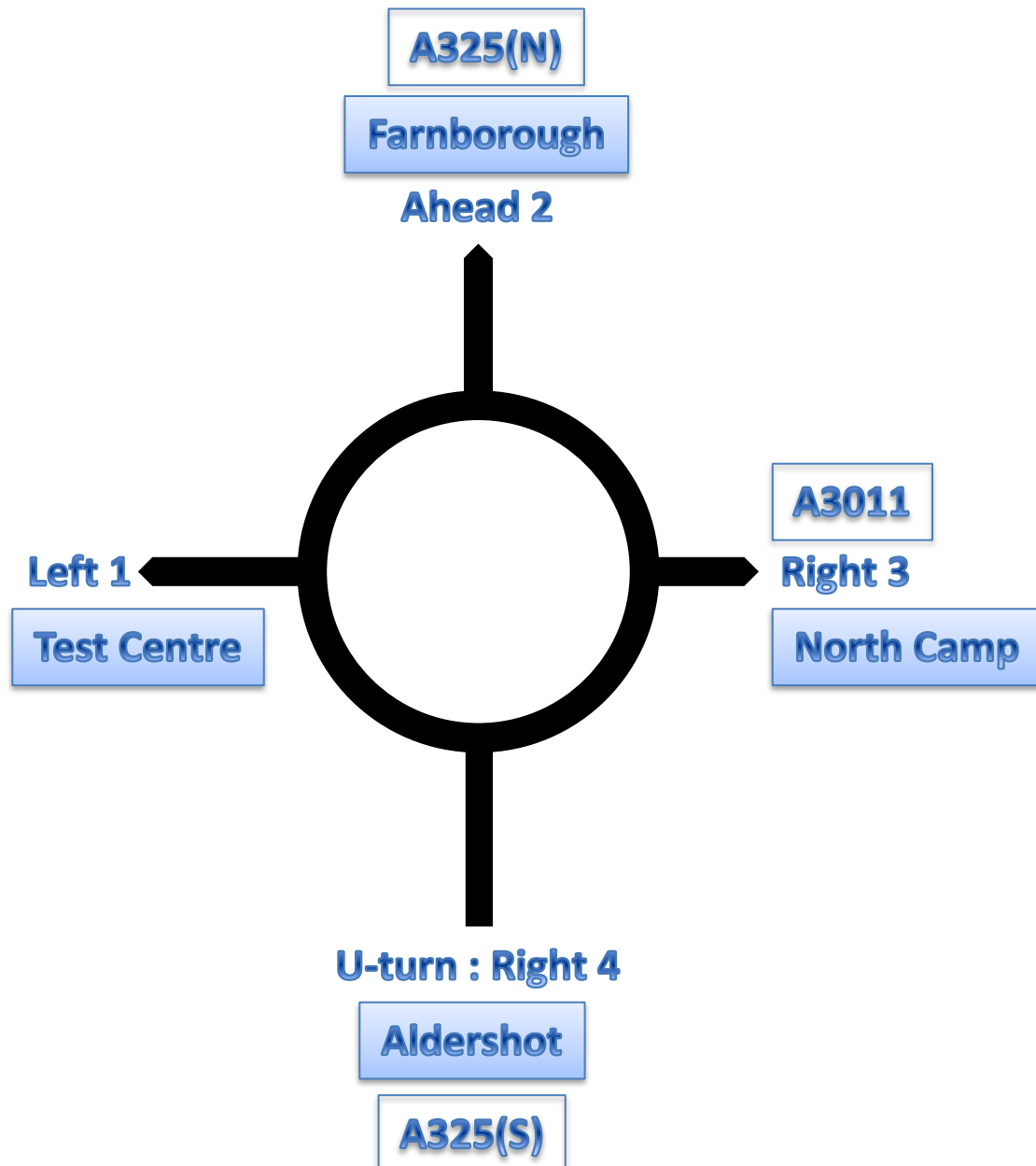




Two lanes merging back into one therefore do a blind spot check on your right for cars merging into your lane and adapt speed to cater for it.

Aldershot to Farnborough

Ahead of us is the Queens roundabout. It is basically a crosshair where ahead and behind is the A325, left is the test centre and right is the A3011





Let's assume that we don't know where Farnborough is yet.
Default driving means that we should stay in the left lane unless we know better.

We are entering a 30mph zone so you should aim to be doing no more than 30mph about 3 car lengths short and entering the 30 Zone in the correct gear.



The road sign states that Farnborough is ahead 2 on the A325, therefore just stay in the left hand lane. (The first exit is hidden behind the lamp post in this picture).



There's nothing in here of any interest to us; just stay in lane.

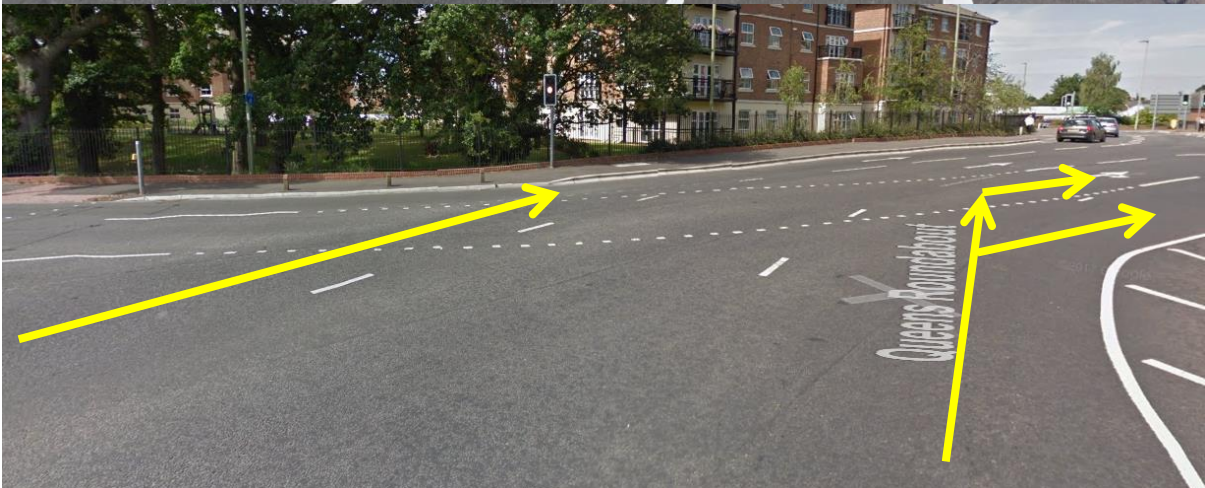


This states that the A325 is in lanes 2 and 3; immediately get into lane 2. Because 2 and 3 go to the same place, we take the left most of the two.





Count your exits; the exit top left is the first exit; ignore it.



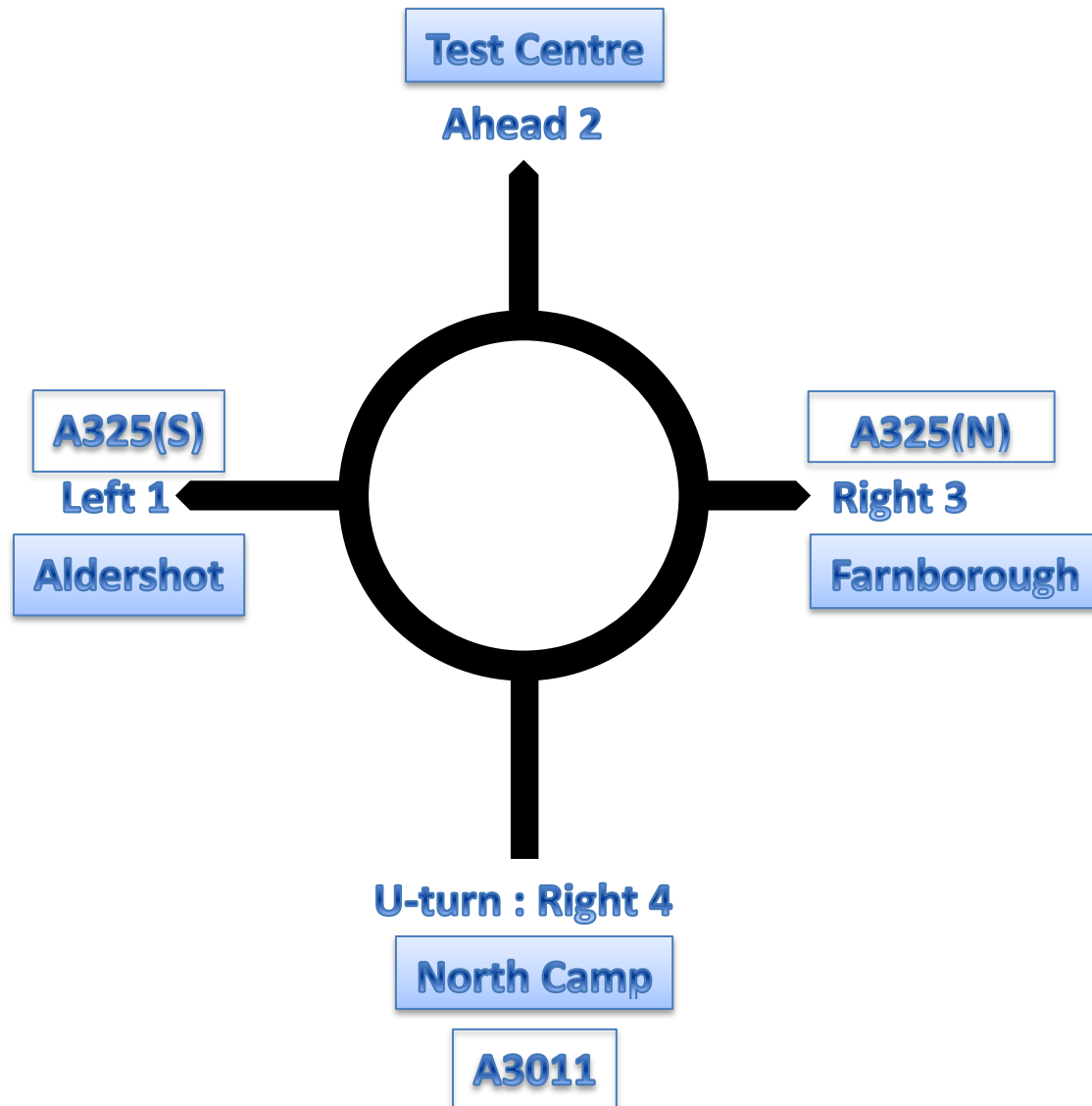
Notice lane 3 splitting into two lanes itself.



This is exit 2 and that's what we want so just follow it.

North Camp to Test Centre

Ahead of us is the Queens roundabout. It is basically a crosshair where left to right is the A325 and we are approaching on the A3011.





As we approach Queens roundabout you get a fire station on your left. If the lights start to flash then you must stop before the white line.



Next you get a yellow hatched area immediately followed by a 'Keep Clear' box. You are not allowed to enter a box junction unless your exit is clear. You are not allowed to stop in a Keep Clear box. I suggest you wait to go across the whole thing if there is any chance that the traffic ahead may stop and you'll be stuck.



You are passing Wavell School, the lane is starting to widen from one lane to two. The sign says not to queue between the crossings, this is especially important when it's time for the children to arrive/leave. Make sure you look ahead and anticipate what the traffic ahead is doing. You can start to see a white roundabout sign, we are going ahead so stay to the left of the lane to line up with the left lane when it becomes multiple lanes.



Aerospace centre is ahead. Left lane by default. The left most arrow must always go to exit 2, the right arrow might go to exit 2 but it's not guaranteed. Stay on the left.



This sign confuses people, and it comes next. This is for the exhibition centre and tells people where to go for the prospective gates. It is not especially useful if you're not going to the exhibition centre and so ignore it. Look at the floor markings instead.



The exhibition sign doesn't help but the floor shows you that:

Lanes 1 and 2 go left.

Lane 2 goes to exit 2 as well (and may go to others but we don't know for sure).

Lanes 3 and 4 are shown as being the A325(N) which is Farnborough.

Get in lane 2.



We can see here that:

Lanes 1 and 2 do indeed go left.

Lane 2 does also go ahead.

Lanes 3 and 4 go around the roundabout but look at the sign on the right, it confirms that lane 3 also goes ahead (optically it looks like lane 2 now because lanes 2,3 and 4, have now become 1,2 and 3).



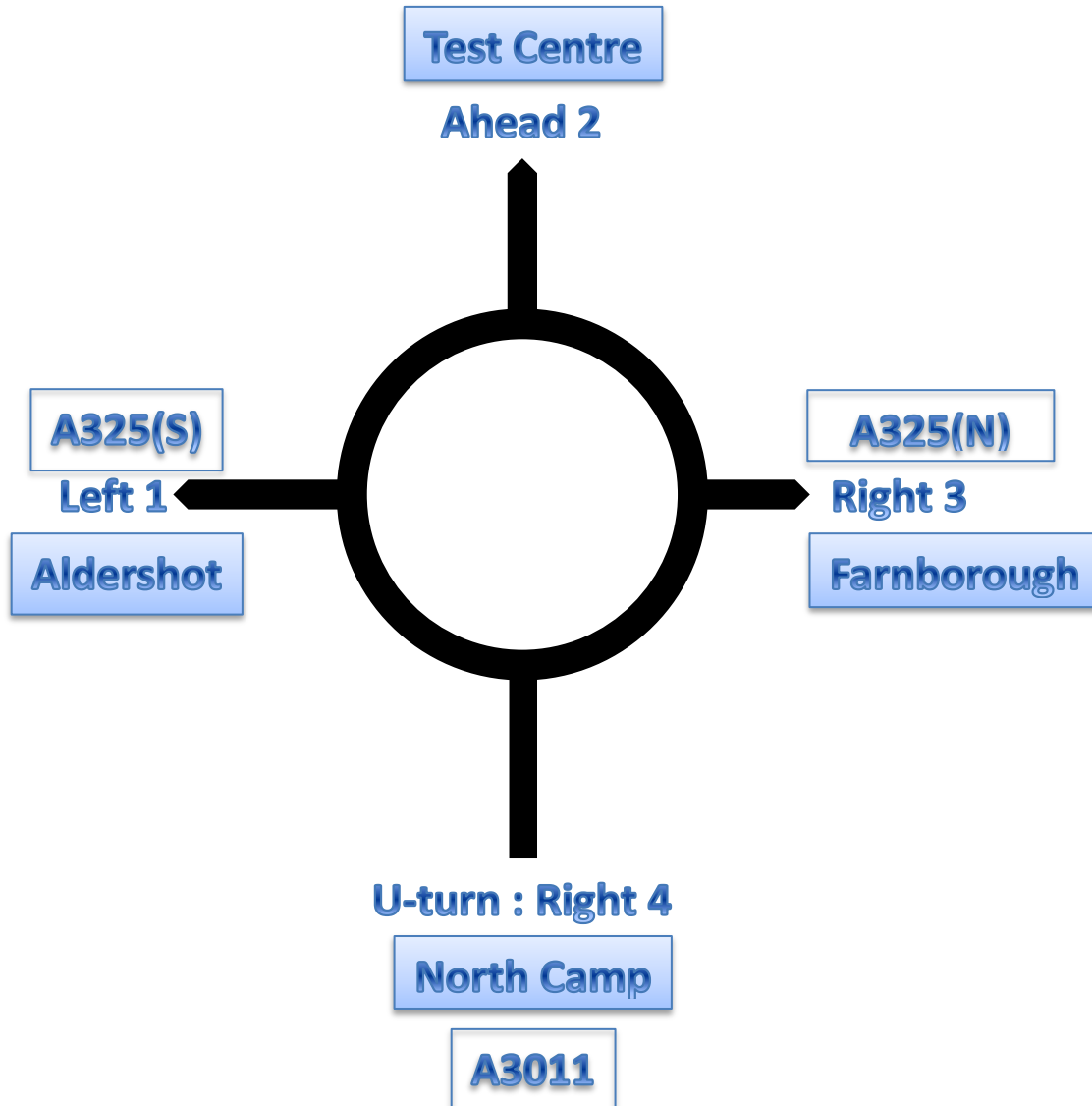
Now it's the same as when you were coming from Farnborough, just stay in the left lane and do not fall into the lane to your right.





North Camp to Farnborough

Ahead of us is the Queens roundabout. It is basically a crosshair where left to right is the A325 and we are approaching on the A3011.





As we approach Queens roundabout you get a fire station on your left. If the lights start to flash then you must stop before the white line.



Next you get a yellow hatched area immediately followed by a 'Keep Clear' box. You are not allowed to enter a box junction unless your exit is clear. You are not allowed to stop in a Keep Clear box. I suggest you wait to go across the whole thing if there is any chance that the traffic ahead may stop and you'll be stuck.



You are passing Wavell School, the lane is starting to widen from one lane to two. The sign says not to queue between the crossings, this is especially important when it's time for the children to arrive/leave. Make sure you look ahead and anticipate what the traffic ahead is doing. You can start to see a white roundabout sign and Farnborough is marked as right, so stay to the right of the lane to line up with the right lane when it becomes multiple lanes.



Farnborough is marked as Right, 3rd exit on the A325.

Get in the right lane by default.



This sign confuses people, and it comes next. This is for the exhibition centre and tells people where to go for the prospective gates. It is not especially useful if you're not going to the exhibition centre (in fact it's a bit misleading) and so ignore it. Look at the floor markings instead.



The exhibition sign doesn't help, but the floor shows you that:

Lanes 1 and 2 go left and we can deduce that's the A325(S).

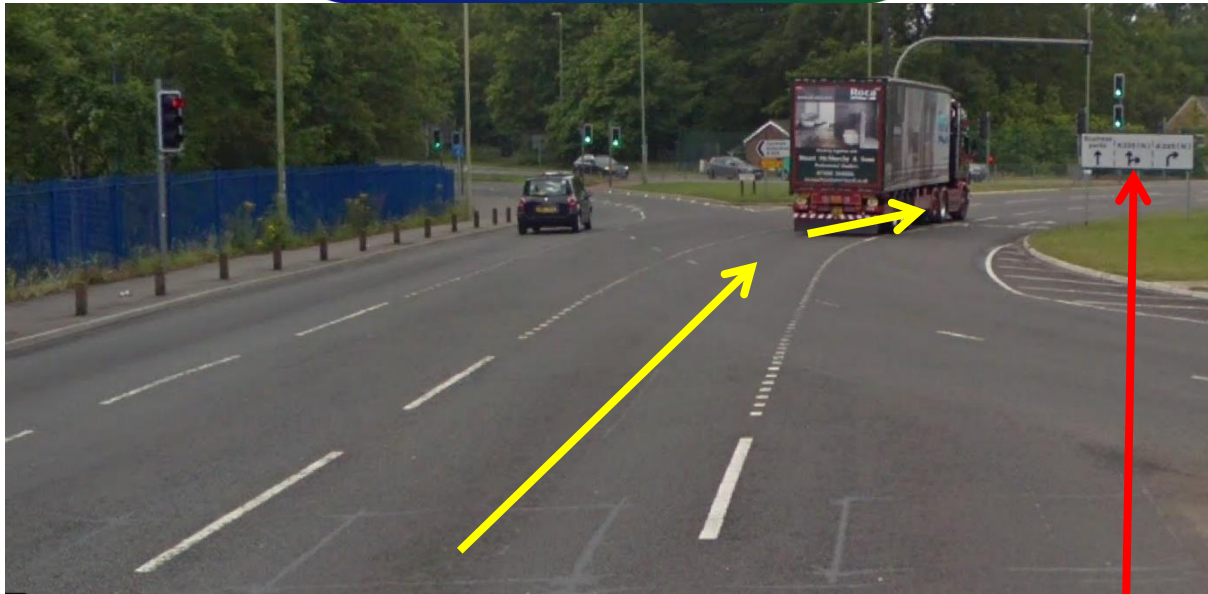
Lane 2 goes to exit 2 as well (and may go to others but we don't know for sure).

Lanes 3 and 4 are shown as being the A325(N).

The previous sign told us that Farnborough was right, 3rd exit on the A325.

The floor is telling us that the A325 on the right is north bound, so we should now follow signs for A325(N). Because you always take the left most lane if there are multiple lanes going to the same place, we will use lane 3.

Get in lane 3.



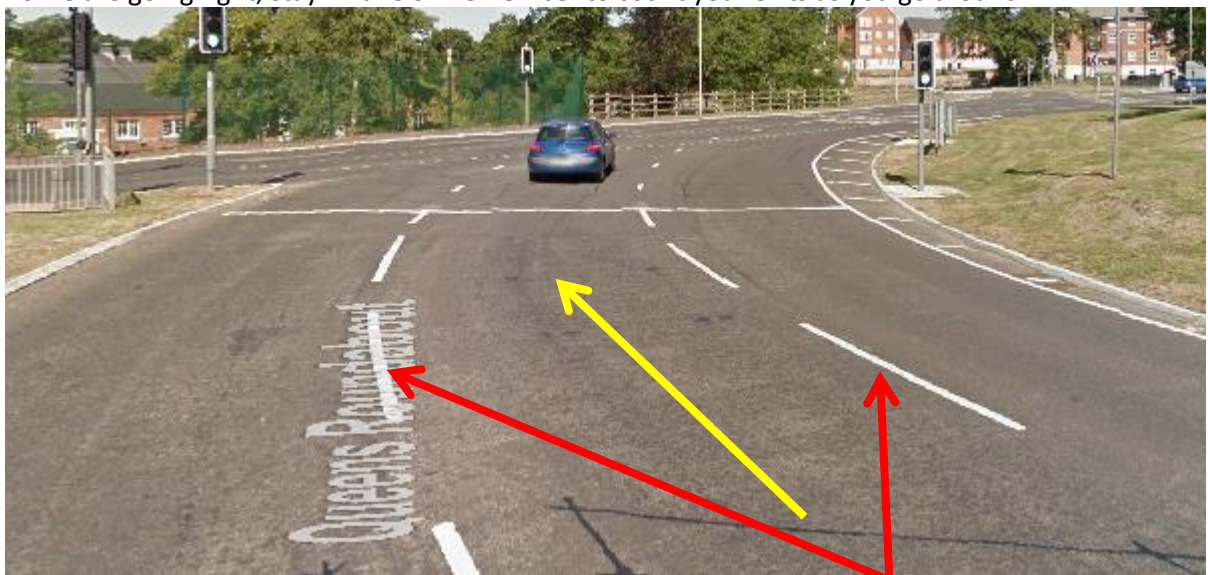
We can see here that:

Lanes 1 and 2 do indeed go left.

Lane 2 does also go ahead.

Lanes 3 and 4 go around the roundabout but look at the sign on the right, it confirms that lane 3 also goes ahead (optically it looks like lane 2 now because lanes 2,3 and 4, have now become 1,2 and 3).

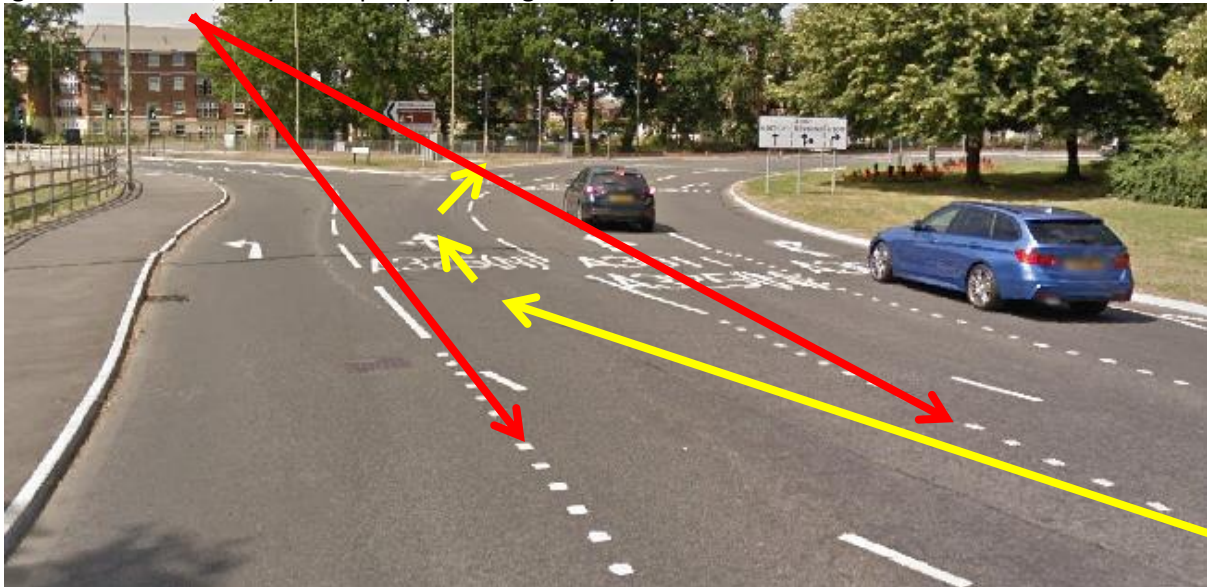
As we are going right, stay in lane 3. Remember to count your exits as you go around.



Now stay in lane 2, counting your exits as you go, staying between your two lines



Ignore these dots, they're for people coming from your left.

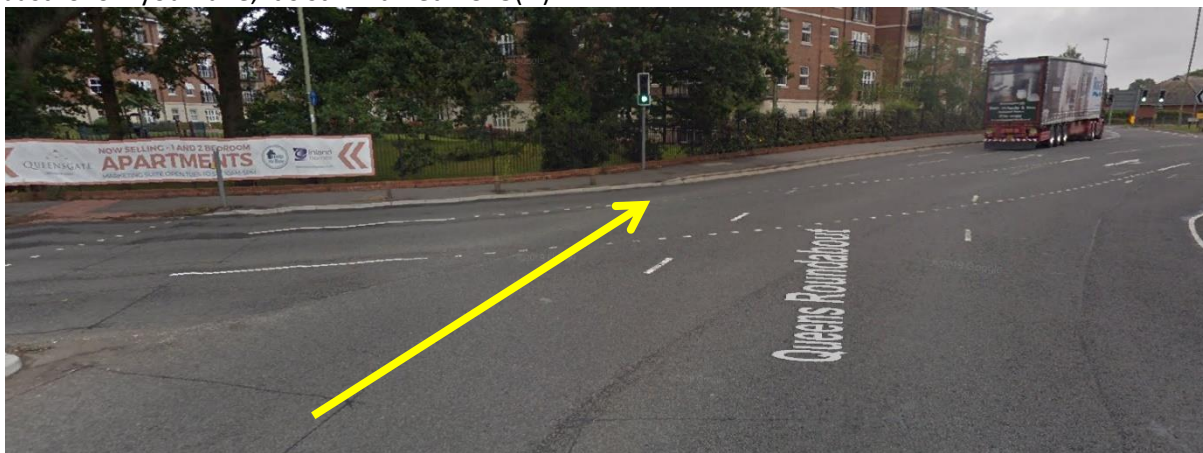


Lane breaks and goes left to exit 2, we want exit 3 so follow to the right.





Just follow your lane, it's still marked A325(N).





Pedestrian crossing so keep an eye out for it changing.



Two lanes into one so check your right blind spot, also notice the change in speed limit.

