



Hazelwick School

An Academy

Headteacher: Ms A Fearon BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Chair of Governors: Mr L Clark



22nd April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Safe Drive Stay Alive – Wednesday 1st May 2024

Please find the attached letter from Richard Poole, Intervention and Prevention, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, regarding the Safe Drive Stay Alive presentation taking place on Wednesday 1st May during lesson 3 and 4.

This is a vital part of our tutorial programme and as such this is compulsory. Should you require any further information or you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Hillier
Assistant Headteacher
Head of Sixth Form

Mr P McIver
Head of Year 12



SAFE DRIVE STAY ALIVE

Dear Parent,

Your teenager will see a hard-hitting stage and film road show called Safe Drive Stay Alive, imminently. It is a campaign to give young people the facts about risks on the road and how they can keep themselves safe as they start to drive for the first time.

In the last year there were over 150 young people aged between 16-24 that were killed or seriously injured on the roads of Sussex. In addition there were over 600 incidents where 16 -24yr olds suffered slight injuries due to Road Traffic Collisions, Data Ref: <https://ssrp.shinyapps.io/dataportal/> The number of young people injured has fluctuated considerably over the last 3 years, which is why we must continue educating our new drivers.

The common causes of crashes involving young people are peer pressure often brought about by carrying one or more friends which can lead to excessive or inappropriate speeding, driving under the influence of drink/drugs, showing off, risky overtaking, together with a lack of experience of driving in bad weather conditions, and driving whilst using a hand-held mobile phone. A significant number of young people killed or seriously injured are often found not to have been wearing a seatbelt.

It is a tragic fact that Fire and Rescue Services now spend more time cutting people out of crashed vehicles than rescuing people from house fires.

By sending out safety messages to as many young people as we can, we hope to reduce the number of young people who are killed or seriously injured.

Please encourage your teenager to act safely and responsibly as both a driver and a passenger. Parental responsibility should not end when they pass their test, and you may wish to think about agreeing restrictions with them which will keep them safe in the first few months of their driving career when they are most at risk: restrictions such as not driving at night and not transporting all their friends, have been shown to reduce their risk.

If you have any questions about Safe Drive Stay Alive, please email the Community Fire and Road Safety Team at frscommunityfiresafety@westsussex.gov.uk.

Please Note – This presentation describes real events that some individuals may find distressing. Some of the scenes in the film are also very graphic

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Poole', is written over a horizontal line.

Richard Poole
Intervention and Prevention
West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service