



## SAFE DRIVE STAY ALIVE

Dear Parent,

In November 2017 your teenager will see a hard-hitting stage and film road show called Safe Drive Stay Alive. 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 199 young people aged between 16-24 were killed or seriously injured on West Sussex roads and 498 were slightly injured. The number of young people injured has reduced considerably over the last 4 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 mates 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 while 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 carrying their mates have been shown to reduce their risk.

If you have any questions about Safe Drive Stay Alive or would like to attend the event, please contact the Community Fire and Road Safety Team on 01243 752406.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christopher Bowles', written in a cursive style.

Christopher Bowles  
Crew Manager

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