



# Pre-driver theatre & workshop education research

Your school/college is being invited to take part in this study

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This is a national programme of research which is being supported by the UK Department for Transport, the National Fire Chiefs Council and other UK road safety charities and NGOs.

The main aim of this study is to improve the safety of young and novice drivers. The delivery of this trial is due to take place between November 21 and January 22.

## 1. Why is this research taking place?

Newly qualified young drivers are at a higher-risk of death or serious injury within the first year of passing their driving test. Pre-driver education is currently delivered throughout the UK. This study is investigating how pre-driver education can improve young driver's ability to cope with road related risk.

## 2. Why are we being asked to take part?

You are being invited to take part in this research as a provider of 16-18 year old education in your county. Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service are assisting with delivering this national level research which is taking place across three counties in England.

## 3. What are the benefits of taking part?

In agreeing to support this trial at your school/college you will be helping policy makers and delivers in the UK and further afield better understand young people's attitudes to road safety and how pre-driver education can help reduce the risks experienced by young and novice drivers. Any learning from this study will directly influence the future delivery of similar interventions across the UK. Schools/colleges who successful complete the study will be gifted a £200 contribution towards their school/college funds as a thank you for taking part in this research study of national importance.

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## How to contact us

If you have any questions about this study, please contact: **Annabelle Priest**, Road Safety Team, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

[annabellepriest@dsfire.gov.uk](mailto:annabellepriest@dsfire.gov.uk)

## 4. What is involved in taking part?

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Schools/colleges who agree to be involved in the trial will be randomly assigned to one of two trial conditions: Programme (provided with the PdTWER programme) or control (Carry on as normal, receiving the programme film in mid-January 22).

There is a 50:50 chance of your school/college being asked to take part in the programme or control condition. Both groups are vitally important for the study, as without the control group, we will not know if the programme is improving the safety of young and novice drivers.

If your school is assigned the programme condition you will be asked to make two 45-60min lesson slots available over a two week period in November 21 for three of your year 12 and/or year 13 classes to take part in the programme. A weblink with a 45 minute film will be provided to be shown to the classes for lesson 1, and a facilitated online workshop, requiring individual student access to computers which can interact in a Zoom call, will be provided for lesson 2.

Students in both programme and control conditions will be asked to fill in three questionnaires across a 6 week period, using an online link, each of which will take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. The first survey will include a student information sheet and consent form, which will inform students how their data will be collected and stored as part of the project. It will also inform students that their participation in the surveys is voluntary and that they can, if they wish, refuse to take part, without being penalized or disadvantaged in any way.

## 5. Are there any risks with taking part?

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All the information students provide within the surveys is confidential, and no information that could lead to the identification of any individual

will be disclosed in any reports on the project, or to any other party. No identifiable personal data will be published. The research has received ethical approval from the Cranfield University Research Ethics Board (CURES/3733/2018).

Students may request to withdraw their data from this research project within 2 months of completing their first survey, after which time it will be anonymised and cannot be accessed.

All data will be stored securely on Cranfield University file servers. Only anonymized data that underpins published results will be deposited securely in Cranfield University's institutional data repository, CORD, which preserves data for at least 10 years after project completion.

## 6. Who is delivering & funding the research?

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[Elizabeth Box, PhD Research Student at Cranfield University](#) is delivering the research with the support of [Kent Fire and Rescue Service](#), [Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service](#) and [Surrey Fire and Rescue Service](#). The National Fire Chiefs Council are providing the project management support for the work. [The Department for Transport](#), [the Road Safety Trust](#), [RAC Foundation](#), [National Fire Chiefs Council](#), [Kent Fire and Rescue Service](#) and [Road Safety GB](#) are jointly funding the research work being conducted for this PhD research.

## 7. What happens next?

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If you would like your school/college to take part in this research, please fill out the following [online response form](#) or contact [annabellepriest@dsfire.gov.uk](mailto:annabellepriest@dsfire.gov.uk) to inform the project team of your decision, who will be in touch in early September 21 to discuss next steps.