



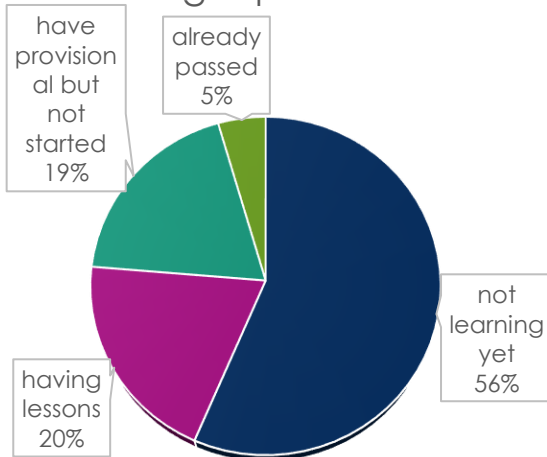
# Young Driver 2018

## Attendance

Young Driver was held at the Corn Exchange from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> to Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at the Corn Exchange. This is our major intervention in Young Driver education, involving our partners in Police Scotland, Fire Service, NHS, Transport Police, Lothian Buses and Trams and sponsored by Digby Brown Solicitors.

- All 23 state schools were invited, 20 attended (2 only attend bi-annually and 1 school cancelled a few days before the event)
- 6 independent schools attended, and 8 pupils from a community project.
- Actual numbers attending were 1,848 from a possible total of 2199.
- Organisation began in November 2017 for the 2018 event.
- We are also supported by external stakeholders, eg: Spokes, Spinal Injuries Scotland, The Child Brain Injury Trust, The Safety Camera Partnership and Brain Injury Rehabilitation.

## Driving Experience 2018



The audience was made up of 6<sup>th</sup> year pupils from schools across the City of Edinburgh. A community project also brought some pupils to the event.

More than half had not begun learning to drive. Only 5% had already passed their test.

The main reason for not beginning to learn to drive was cost – many thought that the cost of lessons and then insurance was too high. There has been a steady decrease in the numbers of pupils learning to drive at age 17. In 2015 30% were taking lessons in comparison to only 20% in 2018.

Others were very happy using buses, the bus service in Edinburgh was cited as being excellent, cheap and reliable by many students.

## COMMENTS FROM STUDENTS

These presentations helped me understand that it is not only you (the driver) who is at risk. There are so many other factors that I didn't realise before so I found that aspect of the presentations useful.

*I think the Young Driver Event needs to last longer, maybe for the whole day to give Young People more time to visit every interactive display as I didn't have time to see them all*

*I liked how interactive everything was whilst also managing to display the key messages about safety on the roads.*

**Really cool!**

*I loved the Mock Court – you can see what could possibly happen after just one mistake, your life could be ruined, and your family's too.*



This intervention covers the key issues of drink-driving, speeding and wearing seatbelts, with attendees taking part in various activities designed to teach them how to lower their chances of causing or being involved in collisions themselves.

Young people who have been affected by serious incidents also shared their stories, and a factual driving presentation was made by Police Scotland, highlighting how new drivers fail to read the road when they first pass their test. 78% of students thought this was very useful to be aware of.

Lothian also presented on how small actions can have large consequences, highlighting how drivers should interact with buses, giving them both space and time to manoeuvre. Feedback on all aspects of the day was very positive with 96% of pupils said it would be helpful.

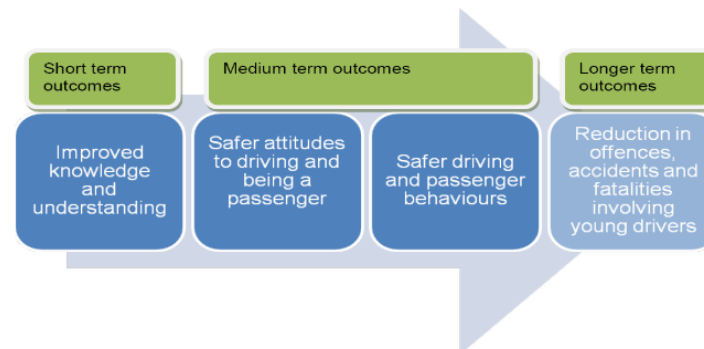
The Lothian presentation also drew praise from the audience as many said that it was something they had not thought of as being a particular danger.



Students report that they enjoy the opportunity to speak to the emergency services at the event, and take part in interactive demonstrations. The seatbelt slide is reminder of just how shocking a sudden stop can be - even at very low speeds.

As well as advice on driving risk, we found that the cycling element of the show was very popular with students. Many were keen to find out more about 'Close Pass', and giving cyclists enough space on the road.

Outline logic model for young driver interventions



### December 2018

We followed up the event with visits to 2 schools in December 2018 to find out how much information had been retained by students. Questionnaires suggest that

## RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY STUDENTS

*I wanted to speak to someone with knowledge of a aggressive drivers that you knew personally and how to deal with it, and for advice/ tips on if you ever feel angry on the road and what you could say to yourself that has helped people in the past to calm down whilst driving*

Maybe should have been aimed at older people at college as none of us drive yet.

I didn't have enough time to see every interactive display - would be good to have more time.

Laura's talk was very sad, and it makes you think about how you can be affected by someone else's driving. It's always better to speak up if someone is showing off.

Could there be a map showing where where everything is?



## Teacher Feedback

We also followed up by asking teachers what their thoughts were on the event. Over 85% of respondents were complimentary about the organisation, content and pace of the event.

100% of respondents also reported that the event has now become part of their PSE curriculum, and that as far as is possible, all 6<sup>th</sup> year come to the event. It has become a mandatory excursion.

Teachers also reported that they felt there was something for everyone. The interactive sessions were highly rated and they did not recommend any changes in content. 'This year was exceptional - all went very smoothly and the pupils were fully engaged and were buzzing about it on the bus and during the following week. The themes and the delivery/presentations have definitely pitched very appropriately for the audience.' Teacher

### Not Enough Time

'We were in the second group to go outside. We initially were told that we would be able to see the outside stations until 14.45, but at 14.35 they called our pupils to come in. I felt there wasn't enough time for them to see the crash experience and the vehicles outside. Better time management would improve the event.' We will endeavour next year to make sure we stick to timings even more closely.



One main change we made this year, moving the personal account by Laura to the end of the presentation was praised by teachers. Many said that it meant pupils left with a key message.

*'I felt all the presentations and displays were relevant and staff provided information and answered all the questions the students put to them. I didn't get to see all of the mock interview. I thought it was very effective having the personal account at the end of the session.'*

## COMMENTS FROM TEACHERS

*I do like the factual video by the police and the review with the graphics highlighting the key signs and information very important as a learning & Teaching exercise.*

*I'm struggling to think about things to improve as felt it was all very organised and relevant to the students at that particular age group. Perhaps something about the importance of car maintenance - regularly checking tyre pressure, servicing etc in order to drive safely on the roads.*

*It is an immersive experience, and not one we could replicate in school. Meeting with other schools, and the venue, does underline the gravity of the subject matter.*

*Thanks very much, we really appreciate and value this*