

Curriculum References

PSHE, Key stage 4.

- 1a. Pupils should be taught to be aware of their personal qualities, skills, achievements and potential, so that they can set personal goals.
- 2h. Pupils should be taught to recognise and follow health and safety requirements.

Road Safety Messages

Safe driving skills and attitudes.

Aim(s) of Lesson

To allow pupils to consider the necessary skills and attitudes for safe driving. To consider whether they are developing such skills and attitudes themselves.

What you will need

Discussion sheet: *So you think you'll be a good driver?*

Activities

- Introduce the lesson by asking pupils whether they expect to be drivers in the future? The ability to drive a motor vehicle is a skill that is largely accepted as necessary to function in modern society. Ask the class whether they think that ever increasing car ownership and car use is sustainable. How might it be possible to reduce the impact of the car on our environment? Point out that the way in which vehicles are driven is a factor. Calmer, safer driving not only reduces accidents, it is also better for the environment. Ask the class how important the car is to them as a means of transport and how important it will be to pass their driving tests and obtain a licence.
- Explain to the class that they are going to consider a range of statements about attitudes to driving.
- Allocate pupils to work in pairs or small groups. Distribute the discussion sheet *So you think you'll be a good driver?* Ask pupils to read the statements together and discuss whether or not they agree with them.
- Allow time for groups to discuss the statements, encouraging detailed discussion.
- Bring the class back together and ask which statement(s) caused the most disagreement. Focus on one or two of these statements. Ask the groups to feed back their conclusions inviting general discussion on the points made.
- Choose a statement for which there is no consensus within the class. Read the statement out or write it up on a board. Ask pupils to physically place themselves on a line across the room where one end of the line indicates 'I **strongly agree** with this statement'. The other end of the line indicates 'I **strongly disagree** with this statement'. Ask pupils to discuss with somebody near them their reasons for agreement. Ask pupils to pair up with somebody at the opposite end of the line to them and discuss their reasons for disagreement. Can they persuade the other person to change their view?
- Repeat the activity with a few more statements.
- It may be interesting to consider the effect of media images on these attitudes and how they are reflected in them. Ask the class to consider and discuss examples.
- This activity can be concluded by asking the class to identify attitudes, characteristics and general skills which could contribute towards making a good driver.

Review

- Ask pupils to reflect on whether they have altered their own attitudes to driving in any way during this lesson. Do they think that their own attitudes to driving will help them to become good drivers and safe drivers?

KS4: PSHE 1

What makes a good driver?

Discussion Sheet So you think you'll be a good driver?

- **It is ok to break the speed limits when the road is empty.**
- **Its important to be able to handle a car well at high speed.**
- **Drinking small amounts of alcohol and then driving is not really a problem.**
- **Being careful takes all the fun out of driving.**
- **Most people break the speed limit - the law expects it.**
- **Most accidents are caused by young, inexperienced drivers.**
- **The most important factor in choosing a car is performance.**
- **People should take an attitude test before they can drive.**
- **People behave differently when they get behind the wheel of a car.**
- **The car is an important symbol of status and power.**
- **Only poor drivers need to obey the rules all the time.**
- **Environmental issues are the concern of the government and car makers, not the people who drive them.**
- **Car advertising and some motoring programmes encourage fast, aggressive driving.**