

## **Sixth Form boarders driving to school and for authorised events**

Each year our Year 12 students attend the 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' event at Oxford and will explore these issues in their tutor groups. We are confident that parents/guardians of young drivers will reinforce rules about driving on icy, rural lanes and encourage many young drivers to get lifts from more experienced drivers during the worst of the winter weather. There are clearly special skills required in driving on the rural roads around and within the school at any time of year. We understand that for some parents/guardians having their son/daughter drive into school as a boarder is helpful, but we also recognise that use of a car is a privilege that carries with it important responsibilities.

Our policy on Sixth Formers driving to school, in the light of research on young people's driving, reflects four significant factors:

- Young men are more likely to have motor vehicle accidents than young women; young men who have had an accident are more likely to have a serious accident.
- The risk of accidents increases the with the number of young people that are travelling in the same car. This may be because of the distraction of conversation or loud music, or because of "showing off". So, we will insist that student drivers do not give lifts to others, except siblings.
- The risk of accidents for young drivers reduces (as does the insurance premium) if an advanced driving course such as Pass Plus is taken.

### **Sixth Form students who are boarders wishing to drive to school must:**

Return the completed "permission to drive" form at the bottom of this letter, for the named vehicle, to the Head of Sixth Form and Houseparent with a copy of one of each of the following:

- A full driving licence in the student's name,
- A valid certificate of insurance for the relevant vehicle,
- Valid 'recovery' breakdown insurance for their car.
- Emergency phone numbers in case of an accident or breakdown.

### **Sixth Formers given permission to drive to and from school and as boarders must agree to:**

- Use the vehicle only as a means of transport to and from school – not to make local excursions during the day.
- Arrive and leave the school at the normal times and park in the designated areas only, these are by the garages on Holly Drive or in the swimming pool car park.
- Drive slowly and respectfully on the school campus.
- Display a parking permit when parking on campus.
- As a BOARDER specific permission may be given to attend a regular agreed activity (such as going to the gym) in the evening but NOT for social events. Any extra journey must have agreement from the Head of Boarding and Parents.

- Boarding Houseparents have the final say as regards weekday driving according to weather conditions or other possible hazards.
- Keys must be held by Houseparents at all times when the car/vehicle is not being used for journeys permitted by our rules.
- In the event of a breakdown or accident, school does not accept responsibility for assistance, but that parents and breakdown recovery insurance will be the means of help.

**Students given permission to drive to school must, under no circumstance, give lifts to other students. Exemptions to this rule can be made, for siblings for example, only on receipt of a written request from the parents of all involved, and once written permission has been given by the Head.**

Breaches of these rules will be treated severely and the permission to drive to school, and park a car on the school campus, is likely to be withdrawn. We have a duty to ensure the safety of our drivers and all those who use the school site.

We value your support in helping everyone to be safe.

In Friendship

Rebecca Evans (Head) / Bunny Hall (Head of Boarding)

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Please return this form to Helene Gentry, Sibford School, who will issue a Parking Permit once permission has been agreed with the Head of Boarding.

- I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to drive to school
- Car/Vehicle make: \_\_\_\_\_ Colour: \_\_\_\_\_
- Registration number: \_\_\_\_\_
- I understand that Houseparents have the final say on whether, or not, road conditions are safe for driving.
- I understand that Houseparents are not able to leave the boarding house in the event of an emergency and that parents/breakdown company are responsible for assistance.
- I understand that the school is not responsible for any damage to a car parked on the school campus.
- I understand that use of a car/vehicle is for a regular scheduled activity (as agreed by parents/guardians / Head of Boarding) and not for social events.

- I understand that keys must be held by Houseparents at all times when the car/vehicle is not being used.
- I attach a copy of a valid insurance certificate for this vehicle.
- I attach a copy of my child's driving licence.
- I attach valid breakdown/ recovery insurance details.

**Signed:** ..... (Parent/Guardian)

**Signed:** ..... (Student)

**Signed:** ..... (Head of Boarding)

**Date:** .....

**Tutor Group:** .....