

28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

RHW/raf/Y12&13SafeDrivingLetterNov2025

Dear Parents and Students

## **24% of fatal or serious injury collisions in Britain involve 17 to 24-year-olds – [A Safer Start for Young Drivers | Protect Young Drivers](#)**

Over the past two terms we have received a number of worrying communications from members of the public, other parents and staff regarding student driving. Whilst I appreciate that the majority of our student drivers drive with care and respect for others, I believe it is important to address the issue with everyone.

### Use of the school carpark

- This is a privilege for Sixth Form students not a right. Students should register their car on a form which can be collected from main reception.
- When using the carpark please drive with care, obeying the speed limit (5 mph) and being aware of pedestrians.
- Do not gather in the school carpark near parked cars – staff have witnessed this behaviour, along with students blocking spaces where another student is trying to park and messing with wind screen wipers.
- Students misusing the school carpark may face a ban and further school sanctions.

### Parking on Cherry Orchard

- The school has requested that students do not park here as it causes problems for our neighbours and is potentially hazardous for students walking to school.
- The school is supporting the local council action to only allow permit parking here during the school day. This will ensure parking does not stop emergency vehicles from reaching the houses and school from the back gate.

The school seeks to promote safe driving amongst our community, and all Sixth Form students have now taken part in the Go Drive presentation from the fire service. Key elements from this talk were:

- New drivers should avoid distractions in their car including loud music and noisy passengers. Drivers should feel confident to remind passengers to let them concentrate!
- Avoid peer pressure to go above the speed limit – remember it only takes 6 points on your license to lose it as a new driver.

- Avoid risky behaviours. Data shows that young male drivers are most likely to engage in risky behaviours such as speeding or overtaking.
- If you have a black box, please keep it switched on; it is there to help you to drive better and therefore more safely.
- If you feel unsafe as a passenger in the car let the driver know. If you feel uncomfortable directly addressing this, you can ask if they can slow down as you feel sick.
- Practice driving at night – new drivers may not have the experience of driving in night conditions and this leads to accidents.
- More information about Go Drive can be found at [GoDrive](#).
- [A Safer Start for Young Drivers | Protect Young Drivers](#) offers further advice and information for young drivers.

At St John's we care deeply about keeping our whole community safe – please discuss the contents of this letter with young drivers in your household and speak to the school if you have any concerns.

Yours faithfully



**Mrs R Haig-Williams**  
**Director of Sixth Form & Assistant Vice Principal**