

## Priority Area Seatbelt Assembly

- Welcome
- Today we are going to talk about keeping safe when you are travelling
- Put your hand up if you walked to school today?
  - How can you keep yourself safe when walking? (use the green cross code, be bright be seen, safer places to cross, school crossing patrol etc)
- Put your hand up if you came to school on your bike?
  - How can you keep safe on your bike? (get trained, helmet, hi-viz etc)
- Put your hand up if you came to school in a car today
- Put your hand up if you sometimes ride in a car

**Reinforce** - that most if not all children will have travelled in a car at some point in their life

- **Who can tell me how you can keep yourself safe in the car?**  
(Wearing seatbelt, not distracting driver, exit car on pavement side)
- Put your hand up if you **always** wear your seatbelt
- Put your hand up if you sometimes forget to wear your seatbelt
- Put your hand up if you have ever taken your seatbelt off whilst the car is still moving
- Put your hand up if you have been in a car with an adult who has not put their seatbelt on
- **Why do you think that some people don't wear use car seats/seatbelts?**  
(forget, just a short journey, don't know how dangerous it is, can't be bothered)

**(HAREHILLS ONLY** - We have the results of seatbelt surveys that were carried out in Harehills in December. At your school \_\_\_\_ % of children were observed arriving to school NOT wearing seatbelts. Out of the six schools surveyed you ranked .....)

- **What do you think would happen if the car crashed and you did not have your seatbelt on?**  
Thrown around car or through window-screen – you may be seriously injured or killed, or hurt someone else in the car.

**Reinforce**- seatbelts save lives, always wear a seatbelt no matter how short the journey

- **Would the person not wearing their seatbelt be the only person injured?**  
(No – other passengers may be killed or injured - ? ask children if they remember seeing the road safety advert on the television where the teenager in the back seat seriously injures his mum - when she has to brake suddenly, her son who is sitting behind her is thrown forward and his head hits the back of his mum's head)

**Reinforce**- it is important that everybody in the car wears their seatbelt

- Put your hand up if you use a special safety seat when travelling in the car
- Seatbelts are designed for adults so they are often uncomfortable for children because they rest on their neck instead of laying over their chest area. In a crash the seatbelt could hurt their neck so children need to use a special safety seat along with the seatbelt to make sure that the seatbelt fits correctly.

- A law has been made to make sure that children are safe in the car – it says that children under 12 years old must use a suitable child safety seat when travelling in the car, unless they are 135 cm tall or over, when they can use the adult seat belt.
- **What is a 'law'?**  
A rule made by the government.
- **Why do we have laws about seatbelts?**  
Keep us safe. To help to make people behave safely. The seat belt law was made because a lot of people were being killed or hurt in car accidents because they weren't wearing their seatbelts.
- **What happens if someone breaks the law?**  
They can be fined and might have to go to court.  
The law says that all children under the age of 12 years must use a specially designed safety seat, unless they are over 135cm / approx 4ft 5ins tall.

Using a height chart or similar, ask a selection of children to stand against the measure (point out that most of the children in the school will need to use a safety seat)

- **Not everyone will have a safety seat at the moment, so until your parents can buy one, what should you do to keep yourself safe in the car?**  
(Wear your seatbelt)
- Local Police Officers and the Road Safety Team have asked for your help. They need you all to promise to keep yourself safer by always wearing your seatbelt and by using your safety seat when you have got one. You can help to keep other people safe by asking them to wear their seatbelt every time they get in the car. We also have a letter for you to take home.
- **Who is responsible for your safety?**  
(Yourself– parents, teachers, police etc can help but you have the power to keep yourself safer by putting your seatbelt on and using your safety seat every time you get in the car, and not doing anything to distract the driver during the journey)

We are going to look at what is **SMART** or **NOT SMART** for keeping safe.

(**SMART** is said with positive intonation and a THUMBS UP sign.

**NOT SMART** is said with a displeased intonation and a THUMBS DOWN sign.)

Show 2/3 SMART images interspaced with 2/3 NOT SMART images, and ask children if the action in the image shown is **SMART** or **NOT SMART**

We have a special visitor who has come to help you remember the importance of wearing your seatbelt – bring out Spike. (Spike could come out before the images and encourage the children with the **SMART** - thumbs up / **NOT SMART** - thumbs down actions)

Ask for 5 volunteers to come out to teach the rest of the school a rhyme - Give out 5 placards - numbered 1 – 5 tell them to turn them round as the rest of school shout the numbers :

**5 4 3 2 1** we have got our seatbelts on

**1 2 3 4 5** now we'll all “arrive alive” **remember: Clunk Click Every Trip**

We will be carrying out more surveys later in the year – reminder to wear seatbelt to keep safe and try to get their school to the top of the seatbelt safety chart!

- Finish by asking everybody to say ‘ I promise **or pledge** to always wear my seatbelt ’ and ‘I promise to use my safety seat’