

**TEACHERS PACK**



**by Steven Pearce**

A pre-driver theatre-in-education programme  
for Years 10 & 11

**STOPWATCH**  
T H E A T R E C O M P A N Y

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**Thank you** for inviting StopWatch Theatre Company to perform DriveTime by Steven Pearce in your school. We understand that organising events like this can cause significant disruption to the school timetable, so appreciate your help in making our visit happen. These pages should tell you everything you need to know about our visit.

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### **What is it?**

DriveTime is a pre-driver theatre-in-education programme. It looks at young people's attitude to the car, and focuses on the increasing problem of drug driving.

### **How does it work?**

It is delivered in a single 60 minute session which comprises a 35 minute play and 25 minute workshop. It may only be performed to Year 10 & 11 students, with a maximum group size of 250 per performance. We do recommend if you have 200 or more in your year group, you consider booking 2 performances.

### **What is the story?**

Michael Clarke is a classic 16 year old: mixed up, moody and desperate to be popular. His life seems to be going nowhere until he passes his driving test! His plan is simple, get a car, get a girl and be everyone's best mate. But what price is Michael prepared to pay to maintain his new status?

### **What will the students learn?**

DriveTime examines all the factors that can affect the attitude of a young driver: friends, family, the media and the need to impress. It pays particular attention to drug driving, highlighting the facts of this worryingly increasing trend. In the workshop, forum theatre and actor-led discussion activities demonstrate:

- responsible behaviour by both driver and passenger
- the effects of drugs on drivers
- how to get out of a car when you are unhappy with other's behaviour

By the end, the students will understand that all occupants of a car have a responsibility for its safety.



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## What do I need to do on the day?

- Don't tell the audience what it is about - the element of surprise is important!
- Do allow only Years 10 & 11 to participate – other age groups are not suitable and may be disruptive
- Do set up the chairs according to our seating plan before we arrive, or make some assistance available when we arrive
- Do ensure we have sole access to the hall 30 minutes before the start time. We require 2 mains power points
- Do bring the audience to the hall 5 minutes before the start time, ideally without coats and bags
- Do ensure we have a full 60 minutes to perform the play and workshop
- Do be aware that it will take us around 15 minutes to pack up and clear the hall
- Don't ask us to perform in a gym or sports hall unless there is no alternative. These spaces make very poor theatres and the audience will have difficulty hearing everything
- Don't ask the team to perform the play or workshop without teacher cover. There must be a teacher in attendance at all times
- Do try to allow form teachers and PSHE staff to attend the performance. This will allow the potential for follow-up work to be maximised



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## DriveTime Seating Layout

