Project kick-off script

In 2017, P-platers made up just 9% of all NSW driver licence holders, yet accounted for 15% of fatalities in road crashes in NSW. Per driver licences held, P1 drivers are also 15 times more likely to be in a crash than learner drivers. In response to these statistics the NSW Government legislated changes to the Graduated Licensing Scheme in November 2017 to promote safer behaviours by young drivers in an attempt to reduce fatalities and injuries.

More recently, the Government has begun trialling in-car technology to monitor young driver behaviour in an attempt to further reduce crashes involving young drivers.

All of these changes that have been made have been led by bureaucrats and policy makers and focus on young people as drivers. However, we know that young people use the road in a number of different ways for different purposes, not just as drivers but also as passengers, pedestrians, motorcyclists and cyclists, and the way young people use the road varies between city, suburban, rural and country areas.

At our school we believe that it is important for the Local Council and State Government to hear from young people about the strategies they believe will promote safer road use amongst young people in their local community.
Our class has been nominated by the local community to investigate the nature of road use by young people in our local community and to design effective strategies to promote safer road use.

We will then present our ideas and strategies to members of our local community to lobby for the implementation of strategies that will promote safer road use by young people in our local community.

This is our chance to present the best strategies for our community based on how our young people use the road to undertake their daily activities and taking into account the factors that can influence the way young people behave in a road environment.

To keep us all on task and to make sure we are focusing our work on the right issues we have a driving question that will act as our road map for the entire project.

Every lesson we will be completing different tasks that will help us to answer our driving question for this project which is:

How can we promote safer road use amongst young people in our local community?”