

Travelling Independently

Being independent gives us the freedom to do the things we want to do, when we want to do them, without relying on other people. We need to take responsibility for ourselves and learn to be safe in all situations.

Pedestrians, whether children, teenagers or OAPs, can often be distracted when going to cross a road. Whether it's chatting on their mobile, listening to music, or just thinking about something else, we all need to concentrate, especially at that crucial moment when we step off the pavement.

Did you know...

- Traffic is the biggest single cause of accidental death for 12-16 year olds.
- In 2005, 51 teens aged 11-16 years were killed as pedestrians on Britain's roads along with 1,268 serious injuries and 5,659 slight injuries.
- 6 out of 10 teenagers have either been in an accident or near miss, or know someone at school who has been.

The Department for Transport run the *Think! Education* campaigns to encourage teenagers to behave safely as road users. You may have also seen their adverts on television or at the cinema. They can be viewed on their website www.think.direct.gov.uk



Be independent, but be safe!