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**Contact:** Sheila.spiers@kent.gov.uk  
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**Date:** As postmark

Dear Headteacher,

### Junior Road Safety Officer

Junior Road Safety Officers have been in operation for around 20 years in some authorities in England and have been very successful in Scotland since about 1995. The scheme was introduced in Kent as a pilot in Ashford, Dover and Gravesend in 2002 and has proved very worthwhile. The scheme has now been extended into Thanet, Folkestone, Canterbury, Deal and Maidstone.

The ethos of the scheme is to empower children within their school to highlight road safety issues that affect them locally and raise awareness among other pupils, teachers and the community.

It is about children letting the adults know what they would like, in terms of road safety education, rather than adults telling the children what they need. But we do hope they will help us to promote topics identified as major issues.

Each Primary school is encouraged to select two JRSO`S from year 6 (possibly one boy and one girl), a position they keep for the whole year.

The children have to apply for the job giving reasons why they feel they would be suitable. At the beginning of the school year an induction session is arranged for the new JRSO`S where they will receive information about the job, resources and a theme to get them started.

### How can they help your school:

The project aims to reduce casualties, and make pupils and parents more aware of road safety issues.

- Pupils experience working as a team and making decisions.
  - Develops a sense of citizenship
  - Encourages a wide range of communication skills
  - Presents a positive image of the school, as a safe and caring community, to parents and pupils
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## What the school needs to provide

- A notice board that is visible to all children and visitors to the school
- A teacher who can encourage and support the JRSO`S

## What KCC Road Safety will provide

- A road safety stationery kit for the school. The JRSO`S will need regular access to it
- JRSO badges, so that they can be identified easily by pupils, staff and parents
- Supply leaflets and posters for the notice board and useful information for publicity campaigns.
- The full support of a local JRSO Organiser employed by us ( which will include a monthly visit).

I hope you feel that the Junior Road Safety Officer Scheme would be benefit your school and pupils. If you are interested in joining the scheme please give me a ring, and If you would like to discuss this initiative with me please feel free to contact me and I will do my best to assist you in any way.

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Yours sincerely,

**Sheila Spiers**  
**Road Safety Officer**  
**07787 514326**



## The Junior Road Safety Officer Scheme

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**IS ABOUT PUPILS LETTING ADULTS KNOW WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE, IN TERMS OF ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION, RATHER THAN ADULTS TELLING PUPILS WHAT THEY NEED.**

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# Junior Road Safety Officers

**A vital link in raising awareness of road safety issues.**

- Distribute:** Leaflets, as appropriate know class number, + total in school.
- Display:** Notice board/area, pupils work, official posters, term R.S. theme.
- Contact:** Pupils, parents, teachers, council, police, etc.
- Liasise:** R.S.O. - highlight local issues e.g. ZIG ZAG parking, speeding.
- Encourage:** Everyone to be safer - cycle helmets, seat belts, green cross code school competitions; 'RAP', poster, poetry, etc. Walk to school week, car free day, class talks or assemblies, school newsletters, etc.
- Record:** What was good + what did not work!



# Junior Road Safety Officers

## Will:

- 1) EXPERIENCE DECISION MAKING FOR THEMSELVES WHILST USING THEIR OWN INITIATIVE.
- 2) GAIN A SENSE OF CITIZENSHIP.
- 3) DEVELOP A WIDE RANGE OF COMMUNICATION SKILLS.
- 4) PRESENT A POSITIVE IMAGE OF THEIR SCHOOL AS A SAFE AND CARING COMMUNITY.