

# Underwood Family Testimonial

Carrie Underwood passed her driving test first time at age 17 and thought of herself as a fairly confident driver. Her mother, Sue, was concerned about her, particularly as Carrie was driving over seven miles each way to sixth form college on an A road that is always exceptionally busy with long-distance lorry drivers. Sue encouraged Carrie to join the Staffordshire's Young Driver Coaching Programme in June 2008 and Carrie was eager to find out if she was a safe driver.

During the blind profiling period, SafetyCenter recorded Carrie's driving as either red or amber. As soon as the feedback was switched on Carrie realised that she was taking corners too quickly. She soon became a green driver and has stayed that way ever since. "I log in to see my profile after each trip and take the feedback on board," says Carrie.

Having seen Carrie's driving improve dramatically, elder sister Jodie signed up on the scheme too. Although Jodie is away at University she uses the family car during holidays and the family uses a fob to change the driver profile when they switch on the ignition. As mum Sue explains, "Jodie can go for several months without getting behind the wheel as she only drives during her university holidays. Jodie and Carrie are quite competitive sisters so they try to outdo each other as the best driver. With Safety Center in the car we feel reassured that she will drive more carefully. And because Safety Center is in the family car, both myself and my husband have also started driving better."

Jodie, Carrie and Sue spent a lot of time driving during the summer holidays and Sue noticed that they were getting more miles to the gallon. "We used to just look at the speedometer but now we are really conscious of the rev counter too. We are definitely heading to the petrol station less frequently," she comments. And if proof were ever needed that the family is now committed to safe driving, Sue reveals that her 16 year old son will enroll in Staffordshire Council's Programme as soon as he passes his test next year.

