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Get fake car crash lesson

AS emergency services worked to free a trapped passenger after a car crash at Sydney Olympic Park, nearly 450 from four high schools in Marrickville, Ashfield, Newtown and Dulwich Hill, were among the thousands of students watching on.

Aimed at bringing down the number of fatalities among P-plate drivers, the Year 11 and 12 students were participating in the three-day annual Bstreetsmart event held at Qudos Bank Arena.

While P-platers make up eight per cent of all driver licence holders, their crashes account for 15 per cent of all fatalities on NSW roads.

More than a simple road safety program, the high impact event involves a graphic accident re-enactment and this year's scenario involves a young driver affected by alcohol and a collision with a motorcyclist.

The driver, distracted by a friend who undoes her seat-belt to show him an image on a mobile phone, collides with a motorcyclist.




 Westmead Hospital emergency department nurse Joshua Boland demonstrates resuscitation to student Mehnaz Begum.

Photo: WSLHD Corporate Communications.

In the aftermath the friend lies dead on the roadway after being thrown through the windscreen, another passenger is trapped in the wreckage and the motorcyclist suffers a leg injury.

The students also heard first-hand stories from Tristan Kennedy and Alyssa Hartup who both suffered serious injuries in road accidents.

"I lost a lot of friends," Ms Hartup told the students.

"I want to prevent anything like this happening to you guys.

"It's okay to be late to a party – your life won't fall apart."

Bstreetsmart was co-founded in 2005 by Westmead trauma nurses Stephanie Wilson and Julie Seggie and more than 145,000 NSW high school students have gone through the potentially life-saving program.