



University of  
South Australia



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# PARENT GUIDE

A guide for engaging with Drivers

## The Driver personality profile

This report is to be read together with your child's mycareermatch report

This report will help parents and caregivers understand and improve relationships with your child or children. Each child has a unique personality that develops as an infant and stays with them for life.

This personality style is constant throughout their lives and determines how they learn, manage their time, tasks and relationships, communicate, respond to stress and form relationships.

Understanding and accepting their style will help you understand why they behave the way they do and to recognise how to motivate, communicate, improve their learning ability, minimize any conflict and enhance your overall relationship with them. When personality styles are not understood conflicts arise and create relationship problems.

This guide uses the four personality styles used in the MyCareerMatch report. Whilst people are a combination of styles the four dominant, **Driver**, **Promoter**, **Supporter** and **Analysers** influence the most.

### **Analysers**

**Analysers are Thinkers** and are precise, neat, orderly and tidy. They enjoy figuring out how things work and ask lots of questions. They are non aggressive and avoid conflict. They excel at subjects that require thoughtful, logical and creative solutions. They don't like taking risks and are not spontaneous or outwardly enthusiastic. Analysers are perfectionists and set high standards.

### **Drivers**

**Drivers are Adventurers** and are always looking for excitement so can't sit still. They want to test their limits and enjoy anything that goes fast. They are natural born risk takers who act bold and are often hyperactive. They want to take control and be in charge. They may not follow the rules and are not interested in a tidy room or remembering schedules.

### **Promoter**

**Promoters are Socialisers** and have a vivid imagination and sense of fantasy. As young children they love to have stories read to them. They live in a world of make believe. Promoters are emotional people and use their gut instinct. They talk a lot. They are enthusiastic and can be oversensitive. They like the limelight and enjoy being the centre of attention.

### **Supporter**

**Supporters are Helpers** and are naturally concerned and responsible people. They follow the rules and are happy to please others. They respect their elders, parents and teachers. They are dependable. At home Supporters are busy kids. They enjoy being given responsibility for tasks. At school they do well and work hard. They worry about change and prefer routines.

## Create a positive climate at home and school

- Drivers are active and like to take risks and compete to win, so give them opportunities to be active.
- Bored Drivers can cause trouble! Have activity plans for the weekend and evenings after school (homework permitting).
- Get them involved in sporting organisations or other social groups, where they can master new skills, compete and burn energy.
- Answer their questions. Drivers usually ask “what” as in “what needs to be done”. They want to know now so they can get on with it.
- If “now” isn’t appropriate agree a more convenient time to discuss.
- Avoid activities that require them to be inactive for long periods.
- Give your child opportunities to be involved in the decision making process. It is in their nature to make their own decisions.
- If you want to have some control over your child’s decisions, give them choices and ask them to choose. They’ll cooperate when they’ve been involved in the decision making.
- If they question the way things are done, listen to them, they may actually have a better way. If not, explain why not, be logical, brief and non-emotional.
- Agree to house rules. Explain “why” these rules are in place. Don’t overdo the rules!
- Vary routines. Your child loves variety so changing the way you do things will make it enjoyable such as a picnic at a park.
- Challenge your child by giving them real problems to solve.
- They function well with lots to do. Give them multiple projects to work on.

## Help your Driver child develop

- Drivers like to be challenged. Provide them with challenging assignments.
- Help them understand that everyone is different but it’s important to always be respectful of others.
- Your child has a strong personality and may not always get along with others.
- Allow them to make choices and be accountable.
- Teach them to accept the importance of limits and boundaries.
- Help them understand that mistakes are a part of life and doesn’t mean they are a failure.
- Drivers are leaders who expect others to agree with them. Their attitude of “do it my way” can offend a lot of people.
- Help them slow down, teach them to take time out and relax more.
- Show them how to compliment others. Drivers are seen as focused on tasks and results and not on people and emotions.
- Help them learn to be patient and less argumentative.
- Teach them how to listen to others.
- Get them to give more thought before making a decision. Everything doesn’t need to be decided immediately.

## Communicate in the following way...

- Be brief, direct and to the point. Drivers don't like idle chatter.
- Speed up your conversation to keep them engaged.
- Avoid repeating yourself, Drivers understand you the first time.
- When communicating with your child highlight the benefits to them.
- Give them choices. Do you want to do this or that, or would you prefer to do it later?
- When correcting their behaviour focus on specifics, explain exactly what needs to be done.
- Reason with them sensibly and logically. Don't use emotions or threats.
- Be brief, factual and to the point.
- When issues occur show how these can prevent them from achieving their goals.
- Allow them to brag about their achievements.
- In an attempt to discipline, they may openly question the way you want things to be and attempt to negotiate for less. Listen, then give an appropriate answer as you would an adult.
- Don't lecture. Sit down and discuss with them rules to get along. This will train them to become responsible and understand the limits.

## To encourage Drivers use phrases like...

- I like your confidence.
- You have amazing energy.
- You are brilliant at sticking to things and not giving up easily.
- You're very independent and resourceful.
- You play hard and compete to win.
- I really admire your determination.
- I admire the way you set your mind on something and just work to get it.
- I like that you are independent and capable.
- You tackle new situations fearlessly.
- You respond quickly to a situation and figure out solutions.
- I admire that you express yourself honestly and say exactly what you think.
- I like that you can't be pushed into doing things you don't want to do.
- I like the way you handle things on your own.





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