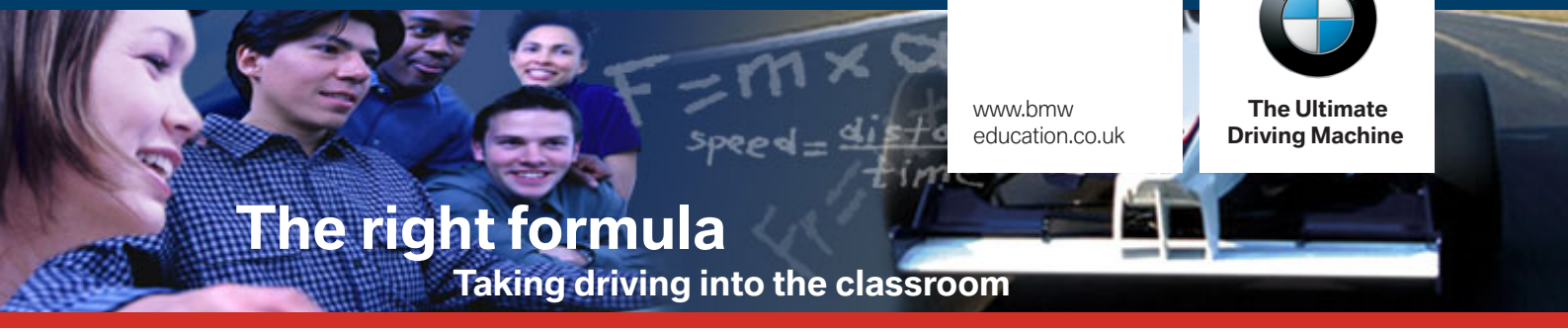

The right formula

Taking driving into the classroom

Driving Skills – Theme 3: Speed matters | **Activity 3c**

Stopping distances and speed

'Stopping distance' is the distance a car travels from the moment the driver decides to stop, until the car comes to a standstill. Stopping distance is made up of two elements:

– the distance travelled from the time the driver decides to stop until he/she applies the brakes (reaction or thinking distance)

– the distance travelled while the brakes are applied (braking distance).

Stopping distance is the sum of the driver's reaction or thinking distance and the car's braking distance.

- List all the things that can affect a car's stopping distance (consider driver reactions, car condition, weather and road conditions, etc).

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- Work out the stopping distances for the scenarios on Worksheet 3c. You will need to refer to the 'Shortest Stopping Distances' diagram shown on **Factsheet 3c: Speed, velocity and safety**

Class organisation

Individual work

Resources

Worksheet 3c: Stopping distance scenarios

Factsheet 3c: Speed, velocity and safety