

# Flying teenager on the fast track to racing success



THERE is nothing Kelly Bird likes better than being in the driving seat – despite the fact she is only 14.

The youngster, who likes to put the pedal to the metal on the race track, hopes to compete in the Rallycross Open and British Trials and the Rally Drivers' Association Championships, before going on to compete at senior level.

She is already first past the chequered flag at Teesside High School, Eaglescliffe.

Headteacher Thomas Packer said: "I don't think we've ever had a rallycross driver in the school before.

"We're very excited about Kelly's great start and wish her every success in her ambitions."

Kelly, from Stokesley, recently competed in Junior Championship races at Croft, near Darlington.

Despite losing third gear, she managed to complete every race she entered.

Her talent for driving was discovered at the Birkbeck Rallyschool in Brotton, and her parents bought her first car only two months ago.

The Croft event was the first time Kelly had driven on a track against other drivers.

Kelly Bird: driving ambition