

Road safety around schools

Fact:

Over 200 children are killed or seriously injured in Australia each year by motor vehicles when riding or walking to school. So remember, that wherever kids are, expect the unexpected.

Tips for parents:

Make your child's safety a priority.

Always set a good example for your child/children. Choose safety over convenience.

Talk to your child/children about safe behaviour. Consistent road safety education will help instil good road safety practices and ensure your child does the right thing when you're not there.

If your child/children walk or ride to school, plan safe travel routes together.

If you drive your child/children to school ensure that they always wear their seatbelts. It's simple and it could save their lives.

Never call out from across the road. Children are easily excited and might forget to check for traffic before crossing.

Cycling tips:

Bicycles are vehicles and therefore have the same rights and responsibilities as all other road users.

If your child/children ride their bike to school ensure that they have a helmet and that they wear it... it's the law.

Wherever possible encourage your child/children to ride on the footpaths or cycle paths, rather than on the road,.... It's safer.

Check your child/children's bike regularly to ensure that everything is working correctly (i.e. brakes, chain, tyres, lights and reflectors).

Check the size of your child/children's bike. A bike that is too big can be difficult to control and therefore dangerous. Make your child's safety a priority.

Safety around schools:

Are you part of the problem?

Remember, the speed limit in school zones is 40 km/h from 7:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday during school terms.

Never park in a place that could endanger your child or other children. Don't park on the yellow lines; they are there to ensure the safety of all children by allowing enough clearance from vehicles at school crossings.

Encourage your child/children to get in and out of the car on the kerb side.

Young children are easily distracted and can be very unpredictable in traffic situations, so slow down and play it safe.

For more information on road safety, email the Road Safety Branch of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure on roadsafety.nt.gov.au or visit our website at www.roadsafetynt.gov.au

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