

# School's back

**SLOW DOWN FOR SCHOOL ZONES**



## Road Safety

**Term 1 2019**

### We all have a role to play

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to road safety around schools. The safety of children travelling to and from school – by walking or cycling, by school bus or in a private vehicle – and the provision of safe crossings are a key priority for the Department.

## Don't be hasty, think of your child's safety!

**The daily drop off and pick up can be stressful, but it should always be safe.** Whether your child is returning to school or it's the beginning of your child's school journey, ensuring their safety in and around school zones and educating them on safe street practices is a top priority.

### School zones and speed limits

Reduced speed limits apply to school zones and areas around schools during drop off and pick-up times. Schools are busy areas where there are often lots of unsupervised children who don't always understand the danger of roads and vehicles. Take care when travelling in and through a school zone. Don't be naughty, check you're doing 40!



### Walking together to and from school

**Plan your trip** to school so you are using pedestrian crossing areas where possible. Always **hold your child's hand** up until the age of eight. Young children need your help to spot danger, like vehicles coming out of driveways. They can also be easily distracted and wander into traffic.

Drop off and pick up your child near the school gate and avoid calling them across the road. Talk to your children about **Stop, Look, Listen and Think** every time they cross the road:

- **Stop** one step back from the kerb
- **Look** continuously both ways
- **Listen** for the sounds of approaching traffic
- **Think** whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

### Children's Crossing

Today a familiar sight around schools is the School Crossing Supervisor. Their role is to ensure pedestrians who cross the road at the school crossing do so in a safe manner. They use a hand-held stop sign to stop traffic and allow pedestrians to cross the road safely. You must stop and wait until all pedestrians have crossed the road and the School Crossing Supervisor has returned to the footpath.



When children's crossing flags are on display, you must stop and give way to any pedestrians on or entering the crossing (regardless of whether a school crossing supervisor is present or not).

**KEEP OUR KIDS AND OUR SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS SAFE!**

### Parking at school safely

Take extra care when parking in or around schools and follow the signed parking rules at all times. Many schools operate 'drop and go' zones with a 2 minute parking maximum. When used correctly, drop and go zones are very safe, effective and help reduce traffic congestion.



### Here's how you can help keep your child safe in a school zone:

- Say goodbye to your children on the school side of the road – never get them to cross the road to their school entrance alone
- Walk across the road to meet your children after school; always get them to use the pedestrian or school crossing
- Try to leave home early to avoid arriving at the busiest times
- Follow the directions of all signs
- Park a safe distance from all crossings
- Always single park (double parking causes accidents and traffic jams)
- Organise a safe place to meet your children in case you are late for collection
- **Report illegally parked vehicles;** if someone has parked illegally it can be dangerous to both you and your child.

## Parking Dos and DON'Ts

### DO

- ✓ Be aware
- ✓ Be responsible
- ✓ Be courteous
- ✓ BE SAFE

### DON'T

- ✗ Park in a loading zone; only stop for the allowable amount of time
- ✗ Stop on a school or pedestrian crossing or on the road 20 metres before or 10 metres after the crossing. Keep a safe distance.
- ✗ Stop or park in a No Standing zone
- ✗ Park in a bus stop or bus zone unless you're driving a bus! (12 seats +)
- ✗ Park on a yellow line
- ✗ Park facing the wrong way
- ✗ Park over a drive way
- ✗ Park on a footpath or nature strip
- ✗ Park on a painted island; or
- ✗ Park in a disabled parking bay unless you have a permit

### Be ready to ride...

How to be a safe cyclist

- 🚲 Follow the road rules
- 🚲 Always wear a helmet
- 🚲 Maintain your bike
- 🚲 Be safe, Be seen
- 🚲 Give way to pedestrians
- 🚲 Remember to use your bell
- 🚲 Be alert



### TIP: School travel options

Have you tried walking, cycling or catching public transport with your children?

Parking away from the school and walking part of the way may even save you time during peak pick up times.



Yours child's safety depends on you

Young children can learn these safe pedestrian habits from you and use them when they are old enough to travel alone.