



PRINCE WILLIAM

Police Department

SCHOOL CROSSING SAFETY TIPS

DON'T BECOME A HAZARD!

Motor vehicle traffic crashes are a leading cause of death to children. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2019, there were 181 child pedestrians killed in traffic crashes.

By following the tips and recommendations outlined in this brochure, parents can help keep children safe.

Please read and discuss this information with your children – by working together we can help eliminate these alarming statistics!



TIPS FOR PARENTS

GENERAL GUIDANCE

- **Slow down** when entering a school zone and be aware of children walking to and from school.
- **Expect delays** when driving your child to and from school. Most schools may not be able to handle large volumes of traffic, there will be delays. Please consider carpooling to minimize delays.
- **Walking your child** to and from school promotes healthy living and reduces traffic in and around schools.
- If you're walking your child to school, **please follow laws and safe practices.**

ALWAYS

- **Always follow your school's traffic pattern** for drop-off and pick-up. Always drop children off on the sidewalk or protected side of the roadway, never towards traffic.
- **Always allow the crossing guard** to safely guide your child across the roadway. Do not call your child to cross the street.
- **Always obey crossing guard directions, walk in crosswalks, and use good judgement!**

NEVER

- **Never stop your vehicle in a crosswalk**, this blocks the visibility and interferes with safely crossing children.
- **Never double park your vehicle**, this creates a safety hazard – for you and for the children!



TIPS FOR STUDENTS

ALWAYS

- **Always walk** to avoid tripping or hurting yourself or others.
- **Always walk in groups** or pairs if possible.
- **Always walk on the sidewalk** and cross at the crosswalks wherever possible.
- **Always stand back** from the curb and **look in all directions** before crossing the street.
- **Always listen to crossing guard** and safety patrol instructions.
- **Always go directly home** after school dismissal, don't use "short cuts".

NEVER

- **Never walk or play** between parked cars.
- **Never speak to or accept** rides or gifts from strangers.
- **Never horseplay** while walking to or from school.
- **Never pet stray animals**. If a stray animal follows you, walk safely to the nearest crossing guard or safety patrol.
- **Never use bad language** toward a crossing guard, safety patrol, or anyone else.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

- **BICYCLES/SCOOTERS**: Bike and scooter riders **must dismount** and walk through the crosswalk when directed to "cross".
- **SKATEBOARDS**: Must be **carried** across the intersection.





CONTACT US



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