

School bus safety

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP



Did you know?

Every day, more than a million NSW school children travel to and from school in safety – many of them by bus. The school bus is an extremely safe form of transport for school students. Traffic congestion outside the school can increase when many families resort to driving short distances to and from school.

Parents and carers

- Hold your child's hand and walk together to the bus stop or bus interchange in the morning.
- Wait as far from the passing traffic as possible at the bus stop.
- If you cannot be with your child, organise for another trusted adult to take your place.
- Meet your child AT the bus stop or bus interchange after school. NEVER wait on the opposite side of the road.
- Talk with your child about what to do:
 - If you are delayed and cannot meet them as usual
 - If they catch the wrong bus
 - If they get off the bus at the wrong bus stop.
- Until they are at least 10 years old, children have not developed the maturity required to cross the road safely without holding an adult's hand.

40km/h speed limit for traffic passing a school bus

There is a 40km/h speed limit for traffic passing a school bus that is picking up or setting down school children. The speed limit is for all traffic travelling in the same direction as the bus, whether the bus is stationary or moving.

The 40km/h speed limit must be observed when the rear 'wig-wag' lights on the bus are flashing. Flashing headlights on these buses also alert oncoming motorists that children are close.

Q: When is your child at most risk travelling by bus?

A: In the minutes after getting off the bus.

Parents and carers, meet your child AT the bus stop after school and:

- **Wait** on the footpath until the bus has been driven away.
- **Together** choose the safest place to cross the road and;
 - **STOP!** one step back from the kerb.
 - **LOOK!** for traffic to your right, left and right.
 - **LISTEN!** for the sounds of approaching traffic.
 - **THINK!** whether it is safe to cross.
- **Explain** each action in turn as you cross safely.

Roads and Traffic Authority

The information in this brochure is intended as a guide only and is subject to change at any time without notice. It does not replace the relevant legislation. *Move Ahead with Street Sense* is a road safety education program delivered as part of the PDHPE program in all NSW primary schools.

For further enquiries www.rta.nsw.gov.au | 1800 06 06 07