



Walking to school

Although your child may be too young to walk to school on their own right now, they will need to know how to do this in the future. On your next walk with your child to school, practise some of these tips.



Find the the safest route to school.

Tell your child why it is best to walk this way.

Point out the names of streets and landmarks along the way.

Point out the road signs along the way.

As you leave your house you are very likely to be near a road even if it is a quiet road. Always hold your child's hand. You just never know when your child might stumble or do something unpredictable that could put them in front of an oncoming vehicle.

Talk about places that could be unsafe such as laneways, busy roads, driveways, car parks and areas without footpaths.

Talk to your child when crossing the road.

Explain to them what you are doing: *We need to wait until the bus has gone by and then we can check the road again.* This will help your child understand how to decide what to do and how to do it.

When you cross the road, talk about and practise these steps with your child.

Stop at least one step back from the kerb or road.

Look in all directions for traffic, not just right and left, but front and back too.

Listen in all directions for traffic.

Think – is it safe to cross?

When the road is clear, walk straight across holding your child's hand and remind them to keep looking and listening for traffic.



Tell your child about the dangers of crossing between parked cars or other vehicles.

Explain that this is dangerous because they cannot see cars that might be passing by and that the driver may not see them.



Thank you for playing a vital role in your child's road safety education.