



# Bus travel

**Did you know that children travelling on buses are at most risk when getting on and off the bus and especially in the afternoon?**

This is because children try to cross the road either in front of or behind the bus before it has moved away. The bus driver and passing vehicles have difficulty seeing children because of their size and also do not expect children to walk out onto the road.

The risks can also change depending on where your children live.

### In country areas

Despite School and Bus Services and regional Shires' joint efforts to minimise approving bus stops in dangerous road conditions, in country areas children and drivers may be faced with issue such as:

- Lack of appropriate verge or road shoulder for bus to stop
- Bus stops might be difficult to see
- Children getting off the bus may need to cross roads where the speed of traffic is generally faster and the types of vehicles are larger
- Bends in roads, trees and bushes make it hard for children to see oncoming traffic.

### In city areas

- Children have to deal with more traffic and roads with more lanes.
- There are more passengers getting on and off buses (and trains).



**Talk with your child about these safety tips. Whenever you and your child are travelling on a bus, be a good role model.**

- Consider other passengers and the driver and respect their right to have a safe trip.
- Keep your belongings out of the way of others. Keep your bag on your lap.
- Stay in your seat, if one is available, while the bus is moving.
- Hold onto the handles provided if no seat is available.
- Keep your feet off the seats and arms and legs inside in the bus.
- Keep noise to a minimum and don't distract the driver.
- Wait for the bus to stop and then get off without pushing or shoving.
- Wait for the bus to leave before trying to cross the road. Always remember to stop, look, listen and think before you cross.



AS YOUR CHILD GROWS OLDER, THEY WILL HAVE TO MAKE SAFETY DECISIONS IN THE TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENT. YOUR GUIDANCE NOW WILL HELP THEM TO BECOME SAFER USERS OF BUSES AND TRAINS.

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