



# Headphones, mobile phones and pedestrians

There is increasing concern about the near trance-like state people can apparently enter while using mobile phones and MP3 players. Psychologists call this 'divided attention' or 'inattentional blindness'.



The distraction caused by sound coming through headphones can make a pedestrian forget about looking out for cars and miss sounds that could warn of danger and approaching traffic.

## If your child uses these devices, talk about these safety tips

- Be alert! Always stop, look, listen and think before stepping out onto the road.
- Take out your headphones as soon as you get to any road so you can hear vehicles and concentrate on crossing the road.
- Hang up your phone and don't answer text messages while crossing a road.
- As you cross the road keep looking both ways for approaching traffic.



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