



## Traffic Safety - Improving Traffic Conditions Around Schools and Playgrounds



### HOW YOU CAN HELP TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AROUND SCHOOLS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

By driving children to school, parent-drivers may be creating dangerous traffic conditions around schools and playgrounds. To help create a safe traffic environment around schools and playgrounds, leave your car at home and encourage children to walk, in-line skate, cycle, or take transit to school. To enhance traffic safety for children and other road users, exercise these traffic safety practices:



- Respect posted 40 km/hr school zone speed limits.
- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians at all intersections and crosswalks.



- Do not pass other vehicles, perform u-turns or back-up in school zones.
- Prepare for the unexpected; stay alert and slow down on residential streets and through school zones.



Parents and school officials have a joint obligation to establish clear traffic safety expectations for students.

Teach and reinforce the proper techniques for crossing the road safely with you child.

- Cross at marked crosswalks or traffic lights, not in the middle of the block or between parked vehicles.
- At traffic lights, cross at the beginning of a green light. Do not cross once the "Don't Walk" signal begins to flash or on a yellow light.
- Look left, right and left again. Children should continue watching for traffic as they cross the road. It is important for children to learn not to assume that all drivers will stop.
- Make sure drivers see you before you cross.
- Cross when traffic has come to a complete stop.
- Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you have to walk on the road, always walk FACING traffic so you can see approaching vehicles.
- OBEY all school crossing guards



**The real penalty for not obeying school zone traffic regulations is that you may jeopardize the safety of children and other road users. It is important that drivers respect the traffic control regulations and safety practices to keep our roads safe especially around schools and playgrounds.**