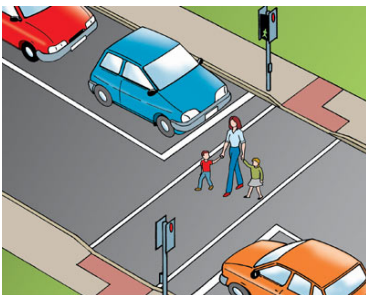


Safe Routes to School



STOP, LOOK, LISTEN & THINK !

As a parent or guardian it is important that you teach children good habits to help them travel to school safely. This fact sheet provides some simple tips to improve safety and provides links to more detailed material and fun activities for you to teach your children.



Important advice for crossing roads on the way to school:

- Always try to cross the road using a pedestrian refuge or crossing where provided, as these have been placed at safe and convenient locations.
- Always cross the road by the shortest possible route and always avoid crossing between parked cars.
- Allow enough time to cross the road, crossing by the most direct route and don't stop until you reach the other side or safe refuge.
- When using a supervised crossing, ensure you and your child follow the instructions of the crossing supervisor and wait behind the kerb until signalled to cross. If you are unclear of what to do, ask the supervisor and ensure your child is confident about how to use the crossing.
- If you are a driver approaching a school crossing, approach slowly and stop short of the crossing. Do not move on until the crossing is **COMPLETELY** clear of pedestrians.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has developed a program called 'Road Safety Matters' which is a fun and educational way of teaching road safety to children. The program can be accessed via their website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Safety/School-road-safety/Road-Safety-Matters.

STOPPING OR PARKING YOUR VEHICLE NEAR A CROSSING POINT

To allow people to safely cross the road, you must keep crossing points clear to allow pedestrians and drivers to see each other clearly. At a marked children's crossing, you must not stop within 20 metres on the approach or within 10 metres after the crossing, unless signed otherwise. This means that stopping momentarily to let a child out or pick a child up is an offence and is extremely dangerous. Wherever possible use the 'Stop, Drop, Go' zones where provided or park further away and walk your child to school.



For further information on Safe School Travel, visit the Queensland Transport and Main Roads website on www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Safety/School-road-safety. Or contact Council's investigations team on imenquiries@cairns.qld.gov.au or (07) 4044 3529.