

SCHOOL ZONE TRAFFIC TIPS



BE ON THE LOOKOUT

There are far more children on foot near schools than in most places drivers go; be alert and expect that students and other drivers may make decisions not normally expected.

LEAVE SPACE AND TIME

If you must drive your child, leave the house a little earlier and leave a lot of space between you and other cars when you arrive. This will give you time to react when the unexpected happens.

PARK WHERE IT'S SAFE AND LEGAL

Signs, curb markings and the Ontario Driver's Handbook will tell you if you are allowed to park. You should park where you are not blocking traffic and where others can clearly see around your vehicle. Otherwise you could create a hazard to others and you could be fined or your vehicle could be towed.

Some basic parking rules:

- Never park on the travelled part of a road. Drive off the road onto the shoulder if you must stop for some reason.
- Never park on a curve, hill or anywhere you do not have a clear view for at least 125 metres in both directions.
- Do not park where you will block a vehicle already parked or where you will block a sidewalk, crosswalk, pedestrian crossing or road entrance.
- Do not park within three metres of a fire hydrant, on or within 100 metres of a bridge or within six metres of a public entrance to a hotel, theatre or public hall when it is open to the public.
- Do not park within nine metres of an intersection or within 15 metres if it is controlled by traffic lights.
- Do not park within 15 metres of the nearest rail of a level railway crossing.
- Do not park where you will get in the way of traffic or snow clearing.
- Never open the door of your parked vehicle without first making sure that you will not endanger any other person or vehicle or interfere with traffic.



Do not park or wait, but may load and unload goods and let people out of the vehicle.



Do not stop for any reason whatsoever.

DRIVE WITH CARE

Driving to school is a privilege and must be done with care for students who are walking, cycling and scooting.

- Give pedestrians the right of way where warranted like at pedestrian crossings, every time.
- Obey the posted speed limit. It's better that a child is late for class than to let speeding be the cause of an unfortunate accident or a speeding ticket.
- When you must drive, use the Drive to 5 map, instead of parking directly in front of the school where space is limited. Your child will get a few minutes of exercise and you'll get away sooner once your child can manage the short walk on their own or with friends.
- While not always illegal, u-turns and 3-point turns are more dangerous near young children whose sight lines are much lower than adults and who are more difficult for drivers to see.
- Use active transportation whenever possible. It contributes to a safer environment for all.





SCHOOL ZONE DRIVING TIPS

- Give pedestrians the right of way where warranted like at pedestrian crossovers, every time.
- Obey the posted school zone speed limit. It's better that a child is late for class than to let speeding be the cause of an unfortunate accident or a speeding ticket.
- Use active transportation whenever possible. It is the safest option.
- When you must drive, make arrangements to have your children be dropped off and picked up near the school, instead of directly in front of the school where space is limited.
- While not always illegal, turning around in a driveway (or backing onto a roadway for any reason), u-turns and 3-point turns are potentially dangerous near young children whose sight lines are much lower than adults and who are more difficult for drivers to see.
- Unless authorized, do not park or stop in the area designated for disabled persons. The two minutes you choose to stop there could be the same two minutes that spot is needed by someone who is differently abled.



Level II Pedestrian Crossovers

Look for distinctive signage and striping that indicates pedestrians always have the right of way.

Remain stopped until pedestrians reach the other side of the street and / or until crossing guards return to their post.

Thank you for helping us keep students healthy and safe!