

TAKE CARE GOING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY DEPENDS ON YOU

Do you have children starting kindergarten next year? Starting school is very exciting for your child. They may not be thinking much about safety, but you should.

Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably, and are extremely vulnerable. Their lack of road experience means it is difficult for them to judge dangerous situations. They will need your help to spot the dangers around traffic.

Sutherland Shire Council wants all children to be safe going to and from school - and that depends on you. Act safely when driving or walking around schools so our children will learn to be safe too.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

- Make sure your children are in an **appropriate child restraint** in the car that is fitted and used correctly.
- Stick to the **40km/h speed limit** and keep a sharp lookout in school zones as children are about and can be unpredictable.
- Always park and turn legally around schools and **avoid dangerous manoeuvres** like U-turns and three-point turns.
- Up until the age of eight, **always hold your child's hand** whenever cars and other vehicles could be around. Park your car and walk them to the school gate.
- Drop older kids off and pick them up on the **school side of the road** in your school's designated drop-off and pick-up area.
- **Avoid calling out** to children from across the road because they may run to you without checking traffic.
- It's safest for the kids to get out of the car on the **kerb side of the road**, away from passing traffic.
- If walking to school, plan your trip so you **use pedestrian crossings** where possible.

STOP, LOOK, LISTEN AND THINK

Every time children cross the road, remind them to:

- **Stop** one step back from the kerb
- **Look** for traffic to your right, left and right again
- **Listen** for the sounds of approaching traffic
- **Think** whether it is safe to cross

Young children can learn these safe pedestrian habits from you and use them when they are old enough to travel alone.

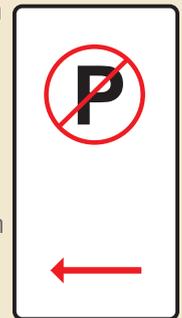
This brochure has been developed from the Transport NSW Centre for Road Safety website <http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au>
You can find out more about Australian Road Rules at www.rms.nsw.gov.au

SIGNS YOU WILL SEE AROUND SCHOOL

NO PARKING

What does it mean?

You CAN stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.



Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for older children to be set down and picked up without endangering other children.

NO STOPPING

What does it mean?

You CANNOT stop in this area FOR ANY REASON.

Why is it there?

To keep sight lines clear for drivers AND children so both have more time to avoid crashes.



BUS ZONE

What does it mean?

You must NOT stop or park in a bus zone unless you are driving a bus.

Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up. Cars parking in bus zones put lives at risk by forcing buses out of 'their' safety zone.

