

Safety around schools

If your children do not travel by bus and you drop them off and pick them up at school, you have an important part to play, especially if you are present when other school children and buses arrive. The carelessness of parents who are in a rush puts the lives of children around schools in danger.

To ensure their safety, you must:

- respect areas reserved for school buses;
- stop your vehicle in the area designated by the school;
- obey the speed limits;
- watch for children at pedestrian crosswalks and around the school;
- obey the signals of crossing guards, who are there to ensure the safety of children.



Why no seat belts?

School buses are safe even without seat belts as they are designed with many passenger protection mechanisms:

- a compartmentalization system consisting of high-back, energy-absorbing, deformable seats located close together;
- a heavy-duty chassis;
- side impact bars;
- a raised floor that places the passengers above the point of impact.

For more information, go to the Transport Canada website (tc.gc.ca).

Since 1986, there have been no deaths among school-age children who were on a school bus.



School Bus Transportation Keeping Children Safe

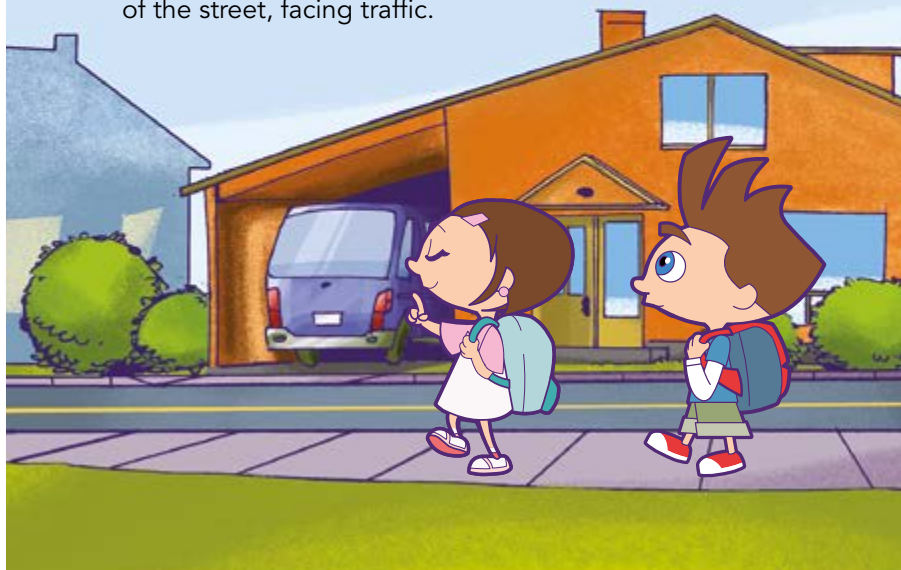


As parents, you play an essential part in ensuring your children's safety if they travel to school by bus. The greatest risks to a child's safety come from either the bus itself or the surrounding environment. Make your children aware of dangers and remind them regularly of safety rules.

Safety rules

On the way to school

- Get to the bus stop in advance without running.
- Use the sidewalk when going to or coming from the bus stop.
- If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left side of the street, facing traffic.



At the bus stop

- Wait in line for the bus without pushing the other students.
- Wait until the bus has come to a full stop before approaching it.
- Get on the bus in single file, while holding the handrail and without shoving.
- Go to your seat and sit down immediately.

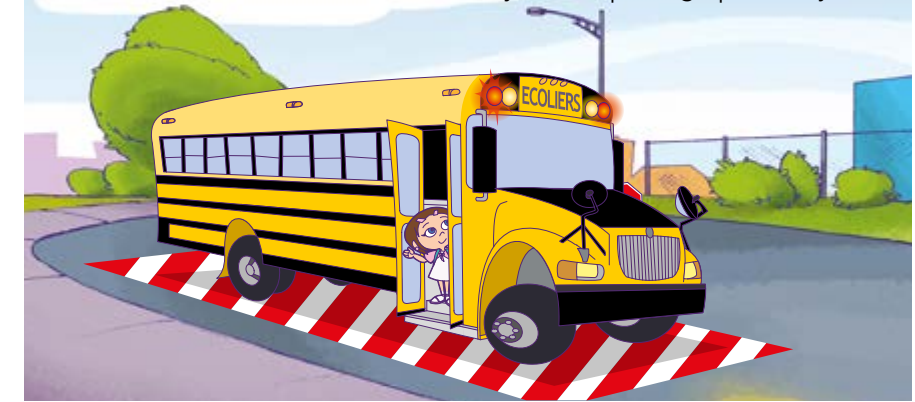
On the bus

- Don't disturb the driver.
- Remain seated and stay quiet.
- Keep your head and arms inside the bus.
- Don't put anything in the aisle and put your things away in your bag.
- Keep your bag with you or store it under the seat.
- Do not throw anything inside or outside the bus.

Getting off the bus

It's dangerous to stay too close to the bus:

- Wait until the bus comes to a full stop before leaving your seat.
- Get off the bus in single file, without pushing and while holding onto the handrail.
- Move away from the bus quickly and never go behind the bus.
- Tell the driver when an object has fallen under the bus or near the wheels. If you can't speak to the driver, ask an adult for help or wait until the bus has moved away before picking up the object.



Crossing the street

- Take ten steps towards the front of the bus before crossing, so that you can see the driver and the driver can also see you.
- Walk in front of the bus, then look left and right, then left again, before crossing.
- Cross quickly but without running.

