

# School's back



SLOW DOWN FOR SCHOOL ZONES

## Road Safety

## Return to School after COVID-19



### We all have a role to play – Everyone's Responsibility

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to road safety around schools. As restrictions ease and all students are welcomed back to the school there will be an increase in traffic and pedestrian movement around your school, so driving safely around school zones will be even more important. The safety of children travelling to and from school, walking or cycling, by school bus or private vehicle, provision of safe crossings is a key priority for the Department.

### Don't be hasty, think of your child's safety

Parents are being encouraged to use stop, drop and go zones or similar facilities, when dropping their children at school. The daily drop off and pick up can be stressful, but it should always be safe. Ensuring their safety in and around school zones and educating them on safe street practices, is a top priority. More and more parents are being encouraged to use these zones rather than walking their children into school. These zones are in place so a vehicle can stop for a short period of time to drop off or to collect children, moving on immediately to allow other drivers to use the zone.



When used correctly, the drop and go zones are very safe and effective, helping reduce traffic congestion around schools. **Remember:**

- **Queue** and stay in your car
- **Wait** until your children arrive - **Ensure** seat belts are secure, then leave the zone safely
- It is a **2- minute loading zone** – if your children are not able to be loaded within two minutes, drive out of the zone and re-join the queue
- **Move** out of the zone if you do not wish to re-join the queue and find a park elsewhere
- Be **considerate** and do not **overstay** your time in the zone

### School zones and speed limits

Reduced speed limits apply to school zones and areas around schools during drop off and pick-up times. There are often a lot of unsupervised children who don't always understand the danger of roads and vehicles. Take care when travelling in and through school zones. **Don't be naughty, check your doing 40.**

### Children's Crossing

A familiar sight around schools is the School Crossing Supervisor. They ensure pedestrians who cross the road at the school crossing do so in a safe manner. They use a hand-held 'stop' sign to stop traffic and allow pedestrians to cross the road safely. All motorists must stop and wait until all pedestrians have crossed the road and the School Crossing Supervisor has returned to the footpath. When children's crossing flags are displayed, you must stop and give way to any pedestrians on or entering the crossing (regardless of whether a school crossing supervisor is present or not).



## Walking together to and from school

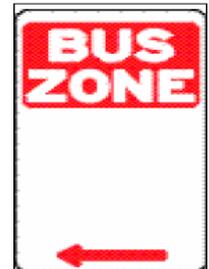
**Plan your trip** to school so you are using pedestrian crossing areas where possible. Always **hold your child's hand** up until the age of eight. Young children need your help to spot danger, like vehicles coming out of driveways. They can be easily distracted and wander into traffic. Avoid calling them across the road.

Talk to your children about **Stop, Look, Listen and Think** every time they cross the road:

- **Stop** one step back from the kerb
- **Look** continuously both ways
- **Listen** for the sounds of approaching traffic
- **Think** whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

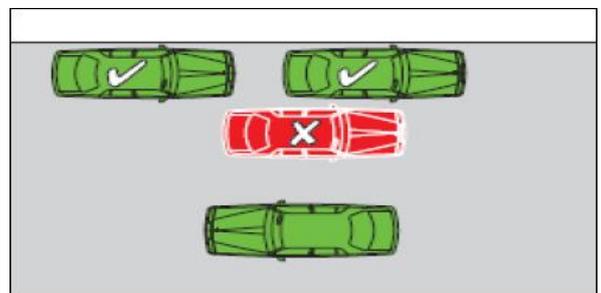
## Bus Stop/Bus Zone

Unless you are driving a bus (seating more than 12 adults including the driver) you must not stop a vehicle in a bus stop or bus zone. A driver must not stop within 20m before and 10m after a bus stop, to ensure buses have enough room to enter and exit the bus stop.



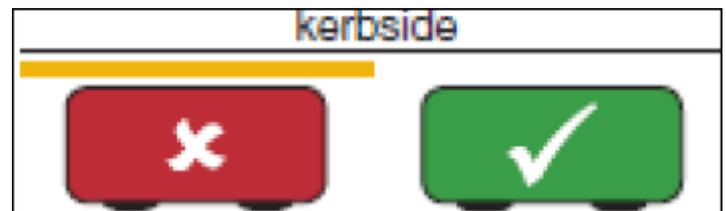
## Double Parking

A driver must not stop a vehicle between the centre of the road and another vehicle that is parked at the side of a road, this includes vehicles parked in marked angle parking bays. This rule helps to prevent children from crossing between vehicles where there is a high risk of a collision occurring.



## Yellow Edge lines

A driver must stop a vehicle at the side of a road marked with a continuous yellow edge line. Usually these lines are placed in areas where safety is paramount, such as near marked crossings, on road corners or to ensure safe visibility for vehicles entering or exiting a property.



## Disability Parking Sign



Only vehicles correctly displaying a current disability parking permit can legally park in a disability parking bay. Disability parking permits are granted to persons when their ability to walk is severely restricted by a medical condition or disability.

## Parking a vehicle on a footpath/nature strip

It is an offence to park a vehicle on a footpath, dividing strip or nature strip. Parking on the footpath creates an unacceptable hazard for pedestrians. Vehicles driving across footpaths and nature strips create a higher risk of collision with pedestrian, especially smaller children who are harder to see.

**REMEMBER – SAFE PARKING MAY SAVE A LIFE**

