

Why **STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!** is important

Bus travel is one of the safest ways to travel to school.

Important safety concerns for children include:

- Ⓢ Crossing roads immediately in front of, or behind, the bus after getting off
- Ⓢ Crossing before the bus has moved well away from the bus stop
- Ⓢ Being distracted around bus stops by mobile phones, music players and other children

Some simple safety messages, outlined here, can help reduce these risks.

STOP

Stay well back from the edge of the road and wait for the bus to leave

LOOK

In all directions for approaching traffic, after the bus has gone. Make sure you have a clear view of the road

LISTEN

In all directions for approaching traffic

THINK!

About when it is safe to cross, only cross when the road is clear

Bus safety...we ALL have a role to play.

Working together to stay bus safe

Helping children understand how they can stay safe every time they use the school bus is important.

As well as this brochure, there is a website and a DVD to help children have some fun as they learn how to **STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!** Additionally, there are materials to help teachers present the message in class.

So please, help your children to remember, understand and use the **STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!** safety message and help kids Stay Bus Safe Around The Bus Stop.

This safety message is part of the Victorian Government's **Stay Bus Safe Around the Bus Stop** initiative to help school children continue to stay safe when they use the bus.

For more information visit
www.education.vic.gov.au/staybussafe

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Help your kids to...

STAY

BUS SAFE

around the bus stop



STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!

A Victorian Government initiative



Getting off the bus...

What parents and carers should do...

When waiting for children, you should wait on the same side of the road as the bus and meet your children at the bus stop.

This reduces the risk of them running across the road without looking.

Park thoughtfully and carefully.

Keep the area around the bus stop clear so children can see approaching traffic.



...and what children should do:

④ **STOP** and stay well back from the edge of the road, move on to a footpath if there is one, and wait for the bus to leave.

- ④ Never cross in front of, or behind, the bus.
- ④ Only think about crossing once the school bus has gone and when they can see clearly both ways.
- ④ Never wear earphones or talk on their mobile phone when trying to cross, as you may not notice approaching traffic.



④ **LOOK** and **LISTEN** when deciding to cross the road. They should ask themselves 'Can I see anything coming?' and 'Can I hear anything coming?'

- ④ Only cross where drivers have a clear view of pedestrians.
- ④ Understand that vehicles may be travelling at high speed and therefore take longer to stop.

④ **THINK!** about when it is safe to cross. Only cross when the road is clear or when the traffic has stopped. There is no need to rush.

- ④ Understand that it's important to keep looking and listening for traffic while crossing.



Waiting for the bus

- ④ Children must not push, run or play around near the bus stop.
- ④ Children should stay well back from the kerb or the edge of the road.
- ④ Allow plenty of time for children to get to the bus stop.
- ④ If the bus is late, children should remain at the bus stop until it arrives.
- ④ Children must wait for the bus to stop completely before they approach.

Travelling on the bus

- ④ Children must stay seated, where a seat is available, and use seat belts if fitted.
- ④ Bus aisles must be kept clear of bags.
- ④ Children should not distract the driver - so the driver can concentrate on getting them to school safely.
- ④ Children must stay seated until the bus has stopped.
- ④ Children should not rush to get off the bus.