

Why STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK! is important

Bus travel is one of the safest ways to travel to school. But, sometimes, accidents can happen.

Important safety concerns for students include:

- ④ Crossing roads immediately in front of, or behind, the bus after getting off
- ④ Crossing before the bus has moved well away from the bus stop
- ④ Being distracted around bus stops by mobile phones, music players and other children

We are asking schools to teach students how to **STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!** to help reduce the risk of accidents around bus stops.

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.

Schools will be provided with resources to help pass on this important safety message.

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

Working together to stay bus safe

School communities are an important part of the Stay Bus Safe Around The Bus Stop initiative and principals and teachers are a trusted source of information for students and parents.

Teaching the **STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!** safety message at school is one of the most effective methods of ensuring all students who use the rural school bus network receive this vital safety information.

We hope you will support the Stay Bus Safe Around The Bus Stop initiative by using the resources available to teach students to remember, understand and use the **STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK!** safety message.

Parents and the bus industry are also being encouraged to spread this safety message.

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

This safety message is part of the Victorian Government's Stay Bus Safe Around the Bus Stop initiative developed 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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Important Information for Teachers

STAY

BUS SAFE

around the bus stop



A Victorian Government initiative



Getting off the bus...

...Do your students know how to stay safe when getting off the school bus? Students should:

- Ⓢ Never cross the road in front of, or behind, the bus.

Ⓢ **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.

- Ⓢ Understand that it's only safe to think about crossing once the school bus has gone and when they have a clear view of the road in both directions.

- Ⓢ Never wear earphones or talk on their mobile phone when trying to cross the road. They may not notice approaching traffic.

Ⓢ **LOOK** and **LISTEN** when deciding to cross the road. Remind them to ask themselves 'Can I see anything coming?' and 'Can I hear anything coming?'

- Ⓢ Look in all directions for approaching traffic – right and left and behind if they are crossing at an intersection.

- Ⓢ Only cross where drivers have a clear view of pedestrians.

- Ⓢ Understand that vehicles may be travelling at high speed and therefore take longer to stop. Students, especially younger students, may not be very good at judging the speed and distance of approaching traffic.

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

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

Waiting for the bus



- Ⓢ Students must wait patiently at a bus stop. No pushing, running or playing around.
- Ⓢ Students must stand well clear of the road – away from the kerb and on the footpath if there is one.
- Ⓢ Students should stand well back from the kerb or the edge of the road.
- Ⓢ Students should allow plenty of time to get to the bus stop.
- Ⓢ If the bus is late, students should remain at the bus stop until it arrives.
- Ⓢ Students should wait for the bus to stop completely before they approach it. They can use the handrail to help them on board and should take care when climbing any steps.

What Parents and Carers can do

- Ⓢ Parents or carers should wait for students on the same side of the road as the bus and to meet their children at the bus stop. This reduces the risk of distracted and excited students running across the road.
- Ⓢ Parents should park thoughtfully and carefully. They must keep the area around the bus stop clear so students can see any approaching traffic.

Travelling on the bus



- Ⓢ Students must stay seated, where a seat is available, and use seat belts if they are fitted.
- Ⓢ Bus aisles must be kept clear of bags.
- Ⓢ Students should not distract the driver.
- Ⓢ Students must stay seated until the bus has completely stopped.
- Ⓢ Students should not rush to get off the bus.

