

Heading to School?

Walk Safe.
Bike Safe.
Be Safe!



If you live within 1.2-1.6 km of the school we kindly request that families walk or cycle to get to and from school. If you live outside this distance have your children ride the school bus. If you need to drive then park a couple blocks away and walk with your children.

You Can Make Our School Zones Safer!

All schools throughout York Region encourage students and their families to use sustainable travel to school such as walking, cycling or riding the bus to and from school as often as possible.

Walking and cycling to school will:

- Reduce traffic congestion, making it safer for everyone
- Improve air quality. Pollution can increase up to 3 times normal levels during drop-off and pick-up times
- Increase physical activity and self-confidence for kids, making them healthier and able to focus better during the school day

Be a part of the solution! Choose to make sustainable lifestyle choices over convenience.

School zones have many distractions for drivers and pedestrians. Drivers contribute to heavy traffic volumes which create dangerous conditions for pedestrians.



Safety Tips For Parents and Children

Parents and older siblings can be great role models for their children/younger siblings. Teach them about pedestrian safety as soon as you start walking with them. Young children can navigate simple street structure but the skills to navigate more complex environments develop around the ages of 9 to 11.

To cross a street safely by themselves, children need three important skills:

1. Able to decide on and use a safe crossing route.
2. Able to properly assess a vehicle's speed.
3. Able to judge safe gaps in traffic.

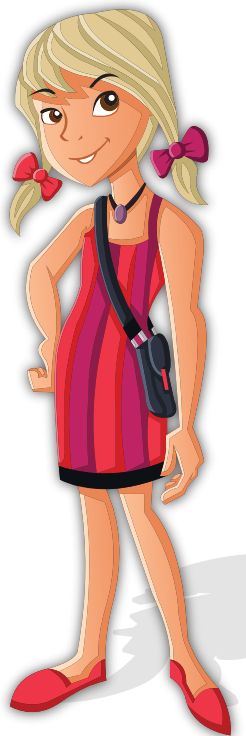
Parachute 2019. Canada's National Charity Dedicated to Injury Prevention. www.parachute.ca



Make a Plan ...



It's important and always good for children to be familiar with their neighbourhood including knowing where they live and key areas such as the location of the school they attend. It's important to talk about these things and develop a plan between you and your children. Review and practice your plan a few times including safe walking/cycling skills.



Safety in Numbers!
When your child is old enough, walking to school on their own gives them a great sense of independence. Encourage them to walk with a buddy. Driver awareness increases when more kids are out walking and cycling to school. This results in slower vehicle speeds.





Obey Local School Zone Signage

The real penalty for not obeying traffic regulations is you may risk the safety of children!

BYLAWS AND FINES VARY BY MUNICIPALITY.
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Children benefit from active, sustainable school travel each day!

Walk, bike or bus to school. If it's too far, park nearby and walk a block or two!

Signage commonly seen near York Region Schools



No Parking allowed at the specified times.

9 AM - 4 PM

← MON-FRI →



No stopping allowed during the specified times, including to pick-up or drop-off children

7 AM - 9 AM
3 PM - 7 PM

← MON-SAT →



No Parking in Fire Routes. These need to be clear for emergency vehicles. Fines range from \$100 to \$200.

VEHICLES WILL BE TAGGED AND /OR TOWED AWAY →



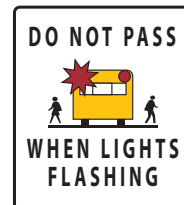
Drivers must observe signage and watch for reduced speed limits. Fines may be doubled.



School Zone. Observe speed limit.



Supervised Crossing. Cross the street here. Obey the crossing guard.



Prepare to stop for a school bus at any time. Fines range from \$400 to \$2,000 with six demerit points for a first offence.

Drivers please be alert. Obey all posted signage and rules of the road.

Only 25 per cent of children and youth aged 5 to 17 use "active transportation". That is, walking, cycling, rollerblading, or skateboarding to get to school despite that fact they live within walking distance.

Be the change. Don't adopt a "someone else will do it" mentality.

By making a small change today and walking to school we can create lasting impacts that will benefit the environment, improve our health, school zone and communities for all!

Here are some useful websites to check out:

- www.ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca
- www.schoolbuscity.com
- www.yrp.ca

And don't forget these too:

- www.yrdsb.ca
- www.ycdsb.ca



The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1
1-877-464-9675

www.york.ca

