

MAKING SCHOOL BUS TRAVEL SAFER

There are ways to make travelling by bus safer and everyone can play a part.

Accidents can happen. Most occur before and after riding the bus. In their excitement and eagerness children can sometimes forget road safety rules.

They may step out from behind the back of the bus and into oncoming traffic or they might not look both ways before crossing the road to catch the bus.

SAFETY IN SCHOOL ZONES

Everyone needs to take greater care around schools, school buses and the children using them.

Drivers play an important role in keeping these areas safe and not putting school pedestrians at risk.

While in school zones please:

- Observe the 40km speed limit.
- Stop for pedestrians at children's crossings and follow the directions of crossing guards.
- Proceed cautiously around buses with flashing lights.
- Never stop or park in a school bus zone.
- Never stop or park near a children's crossing.
- Always use designated drop-off areas.

SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Talking with your child about safe behaviour in traffic areas on a regular basis can build their confidence and help them to feel secure.

One of the best ways to help keep your child safe is to **practice how to cross the road safely** especially before boarding and after leaving the bus.

Please make sure your child understands the safety procedure below:

- **WAIT** on the footpath until the bus has driven away – choose the safest place to cross.
- **WATCH** until there is no traffic or the traffic has stopped.
- **WALK** across the road, turning your head both ways to look and listen for traffic.

Other ways you can assist your child to become a safer bus traveller include:

- Arrange for an adult to accompany your child to and from the bus stop.
- Wait for your child on the same side of the road as the stopping bus.
- Never call for your child to cross the road to meet you.
- Discuss what to do should your child miss the bus or catch the wrong one.

SAFETY IN SCHOOL BUSES

Every day thousands of children use Busways to travel to school and back. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe ride there is a Student Code of Conduct that all students are required to follow.

Students must:

- Respect the safety and comfort of others.
- Follow the driver's instructions.
- Show bus passes when boarding.
- Remain seated while the bus is moving.
- Keep heads, arms and legs inside the bus.
- Give up seats for adults and the disabled.

Students must not:

- Behave in an unsafe or unacceptable manner.
- Distract the driver.
- Give or lend bus passes to other students.
- Mark or damage bus property.
- Throw anything in or from the bus.
- Eat or drink in the bus.
- Fight, smoke, spit or use offensive language.

If a student misbehaves on the bus their bus pass may be taken away. Disobeying the rules may also result in parents, schools and the Police being contacted and serious offences being prosecuted.

IT'S SAFER TAKING THE BUS

Travelling on the bus is one of the safest ways to get to and from school. It is safer for children to take the bus to school than it is to walk, ride a bike or travel in the family car.*

Busways cares about the safety and well-being of all children, particularly those inside and around our buses.

As part of our commitment to safety Busways employs experienced, qualified drivers who are trained to provide a safe and friendly service. Our buses are maintained to high standards and conform to all government safety and operational requirements.

Busways has also developed a code of conduct for students who travel on our buses to help all passengers feel safe and have a comfortable ride.

This brochure provides information about school bus safety and contains some simple steps to help children remain safe while travelling to and from school.



Bus safety rules!

BUSWAYS DEPOTS

Campbelltown (02) 4625 8922	Bulahdelah (02) 4997 4788	Macksville (02) 6568 3012
Camden (02) 4647 7785	Laurieton (02) 6559 7712	Raleigh (02) 6655 7410
Blacktown (02) 9625 8900	Wauchope (02) 6586 1855	Coffs Harbour (02) 6652 2744
Gosford (02) 4368 2277	Port Macquarie (02) 6583 2499	Grafton (02) 6642 2954
Wyong (02) 4392 6666	Kempsey (02) 6562 4724	Yamba (02) 6645 8941
Heatherbrae (02) 4983 1560	busways.com.au info@busways.com.au	



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Get on board with safety



Ways to make bus travel **safer** for school children

* Travelling to school by bus is 4.4 times safer than walking, 55 times safer than riding a bicycle, 9 times safer than riding a motorbike and 1.38 times safer than being driven in the family car – a study by the Institute of Transport and Logistical Studies, the University of Sydney.

The information contained in this guide is correct at the time of publication. However, Busways reserves the right to make changes without notice to improve our services to you. This brochure was printed by a carbon neutral printer, using vegetable inks on PEFC sustainable paper as part of Busways' commitment to supporting the environment.

