



Community & Resident Safety

Balfour Beatty
Communities

School Bus Safety

Young children are some of our most vulnerable road users as they are unable to judge speed and distance of vehicles correctly and may behave unpredictably and run out into the road unexpectedly. It is therefore important to obey the speed limit and be aware of your surroundings.

Vehicle stopping distances can be affected by various things, especially the speed of travel. Other influences include: bad weather, poor visibility, the condition of tires, and general road quality. Driving at or below 15 mph around schools and homes is a life-saving act. If a driver hits someone on foot at 15 mph, they will likely survive. Hit at 30 mph, individuals have a one-in-five chance of not surviving. This rises to a 40% chance of death at 35 mph and 80% at 40 mph.

Teach your children about the 10-foot danger zone around the school bus, where the driver can't see children on the ground. Young children should take eight giant steps away from the bus to be sure the bus driver can see them. Kids who must cross the street should look at the bus driver for an "OK" sign before crossing and always cross in front of the bus.

DRIVER SAFETY TIPS:

- Pay extra attention and never speed when driving in a school zone and around school buses and pedestrians.

BUS RIDER SAFETY TIPS:

- Outside of the Bus:
 - While waiting for the bus, stay in a safe place from the street.
 - Wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb.
 - Never walk behind or close to the side of the bus or run across the road to catch a school bus.
 - Wait until the school bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says it's safe to board.
 - Be alert to traffic. Look left, right, left before you cross the street.
 - Stay out of the Danger Zone, always be at least 10 feet away from the bus.
 - If something falls under or near the bus, tell the driver. Never try to pick it up yourself!
- On the Bus:
 - Use lap/shoulder seat belts, if available.
 - Do not move around on the bus while it is in motion.