

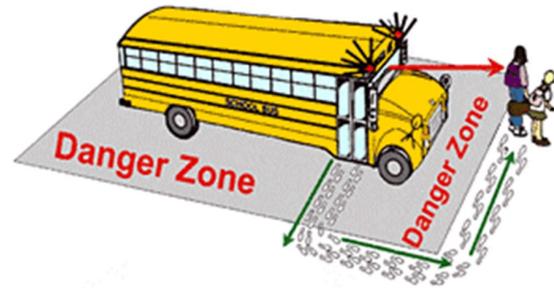
School-Bus Safety

Bus drivers have the responsibility of inspecting the school bus each morning to ensure that it is safe to operate. They also must manage the behavior of kids on the bus while operating the bus in a safe and defensive manner, loading and unloading the school bus several times each school day.

The most dangerous part of a school bus ride is loading and unloading children. As bus drivers, parents, educators and drivers on the road, we all need to do our part in keeping our children safe.

When waiting for their school bus, kids must remain outside the Danger Zone until the bus comes to a complete stop, and the driver motions for them to board the bus.

We ask that children refrain from horseplay and rough housing at bus stops.



If a student is on the other side of the road from the bus, they must wait until traffic is clear and their bus driver signals them to cross. Children should make eye contact with the driver. On the bus, children should use the handrail and walk to their seats. They should remove their back pack, store all loose items in their pack and place their pack on their lap, sitting up straight with their feet in front them. It is important that children use a quiet voice and remain seated for the duration of the trip to not distract the driver.

A school bus driver is required to activate their flashing amber warning lights approx. 150-250 feet from where they will be stopping the bus to pick up a child. These lights indicate to the drivers behind and approaching them, to SLOW DOWN and prepare to STOP. These lights do not mean to speed up and try to pass the bus. **As the bus is coming to a complete stop, they will indicate that with their Red Lights, Stop Sign and Crossing Arm. All traffic must now stop and remain stopped until the school bus turns off the lights and resumes operating.**

More buses are being equipped with cameras that will capture footage and a license plates of vehicles that do not adhere to Load Lights (amber and red lights). ALL Load Light Violations are reported to the RCMP. There is a zero tolerance for these violations. Failure to stop for a school bus may result in a \$368 fine and 3 points on your drivers license, even though it may appear that no one is watching.



Things to consider

Weather and road conditions greatly impact visibility and a vehicle's stopping distance.

Distractions such as conversations, music, texting and phone calls can impede the focus needed to drive safely.

Lets keep our children SAFE!

