Stop, look and listen

Dear Parent or Carer,

Your child is learning about road safety as part of a national campaign to reduce the number of road casualties. This Home-link Sheet is one of a series showing how you can help your child to be safer. It contains ideas for simple activities that you can do with your child. Learning together this way is fun and it supports the key safety messages that your child is learning in his or her Early Years Setting.

Setting a good example for young children through your own behaviour on the road helps them learn good road safety skills and apply these throughout their lives.

Stop, look and listen

This is all about crossing the road safely. The activities below will help your child to learn:

• what stop, look and listen means
• that they should always hold a carer’s hand when crossing the road
• about pedestrian and zebra crossings.

Activities

1 Walk to a local pedestrian (puffin or pelican) crossing or zebra crossing and let your child show you how they can cross the road safely with you:
   • Remind them that they should always stop, look and listen before they cross.
   • Hold hands at all times near traffic.
   • Make sure your child looks and listens while crossing.

2 Visit the Children’s Traffic Club website at www.childrenstrafficclub.com and play some of the online games there with your child (they are designed for ages 3-4).
   • Have a look at the Parents’ section for more great advice on keeping your child safer.

3 When crossing the road with your child, talk about what stop, look and listen means and why we have to do each one.
   • Make sure that your child knows why stop, look and listen is important.
   • Talk about safer places to cross, away from parked cars if possible.
   • Use subways, footbridges and traffic islands as well as the different kinds of pedestrian crossings like puffins, pelicans and zebras.