

Another Loss Control / Risk Management Service provided by Suncorp Valuations

Inspection Tip: School Bus Safety

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Learning Objective: To discuss the importance of watching for children as they return back to school



Transport Canada along with provincial governments, school boards and school bus operators each play a role in making sure school buses are safe. As we know school buses are the some of the safest vehicles on the road and your child is much safer taking a bus to and from school than travelling by car. The safety standards that go into the design of a bus are significant, however the greatest risk we see is when children are loading or getting off the bus. As such we wanted to take a minute and remind everyone what should be done to educate students and parents about some very simple rules to follow.

For Parents:

1. Teach your child to stay well back from all buses (3 giant step or 6 ft.) while they are arriving.
2. Only when the school bus stops, the door is open and the driver says its okay, should you get on or off the bus. Use the handrails provided and avoid running.
3. Your child should never walk behind or in front of a school bus. If you child has to cross the street, have them cross only at designated cross walks.
4. Parents – ***Please RESPECT*** the “No Parking” and “drop off” areas as designated by school staff.

For Drivers (Parents, Students, etc.):

1. **Slow Down** – respect the posted speed limits within a school zone.
2. When backing out of a driveway, watch closely for children walking or bicycling to school.
3. Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops, parks, etc.
4. Always watch for flashing red lights and extended stop arms on buses and stop and wait till they stop flashing.



For Teachers & School Administrators:

1. Educate your students on bus safety and the importance of following the rules.
2. Always provide supervision for your students when they are arriving or departing on buses.
3. Get to know your bus driver. This will assist them in knowing which students will or will not be on the bus.
4. Always keep a duplicate record of the students on the bus at the school.
5. Provide a “Safety Patrol” program to assist students who will have to cross a street to or from school.

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