

Tips on how to keep your child/children safe when going to & from school



Make them aware of their surroundings when out

- Earphones & earbuds can make them vulnerable & less aware of their surroundings, They should either not use them or only have one earbud in, so they can hear what is going on around them.
- Vehicles & strangers on the street can be a threat. They should stay alert, looking up & not looking at their phones. This will also stop them walking in front of a car or bike.
- Have conversations with them about the safest route home, avoiding shortcuts and known trouble areas.
- When crossing the road, they should either use zebra crossings or traffic lights and wait for the Green Man.
- If a van or car stops to ask for directions, they should **not stop** and speak to them, this may be away of getting them into the vehicle.
- If they feel unsafe, they should run to the nearest shop & ask for help.

Keep their belongings out of sight

- Don't advertise valuables: keep phones & gadgets in their pockets.
- Smartphones in particular are attractive to thieves, maybe get them a more basic model.
- Many of the latest mobile phones have apps that can help you find your phone – make sure you have downloaded these and they're switched on.
- Mark their belongings clearly: it makes them less of a target as they will be harder to sell on.
- They should be careful where they leave their bags and jackets e.g. on the backs of chairs or as goal posts when playing football.
- **Have them walk home with a friend, group or an older sibling.**
- **Maybe get them a Personal Alarm, OR get them to yell out Help/Go away OR make a lot of noise to frighten off any potential attackers.**
- **They should not accept sweets or vapes from anyone, as these could be drugs, disguised to look like sweets etc.**
- **They should never get into a stranger's car, even if the driver says "your mum has asked me to pick you up".**

STAY ALERT & DON'T GET HURT

