

**The programme, in partnership with parents, aims to develop a child's awareness of roads and traffic. Training takes place using roads near the school.**

### This leaflet aims to:

- Suggest ideas to discuss with children
- Help develop skills to become a safer road user. It is not just about crossing the road.

### We hope it will:

- Reinforce the training given at Pedestrian Training sessions
- Provide a summary of the training session for those who were unable to attend

Work through the sections, bit by bit – don't try to get through it all at once.

**Parents, carers and families are the best people to teach road safety to their children as they spend the most time with them.**

**Keep them safe whilst helping them to develop their skills. Make sure they know the importance of:**

- **Always holding hands**
- **Not crossing the road by themselves**

### Help your child:

- Talk to them and explain what you are doing and why, whenever you are near the road. Make sure they know the meaning of the words: Pavement, Pedestrian, Road, Kerb (not 'curve') etc.
- Ask them lots of questions and encourage them to question you. Make sure your child always STOPS at the kerb, then LOOKS and LISTENS for traffic.
- Make sure everyone gives the same message
- Be consistent – even when you're in a hurry. Never let your child see you do something you would not want them to copy.



**When is it dangerous for pedestrians on the pavement?**

*Vehicles turning in or out of driveways*

**How can you spot a driveway?**

*Dropped kerbs*

**Ask children to point out the kerb, pavement, grass verge, etc.**

**What do you need to look and listen for?**

*Traffic/Vehicles*

**How can you tell if a vehicle is turning or reversing?**

*Flashing Indicator light and white reversing light, large vehicles sometimes give warning sounds when reversing*



**Why should we hold hands near the road?**

*So that parents can help keep us safe and away from traffic*

**Why should we walk on pavements and not run?**

*You may fall, and walking gives you time to keep looking and listening*

## 2. Choose the safest place

You should always choose the safest place to cross with your child. There may be some special facilities to help you cross, such as a bridge, subway, zebra or crossing patrol. If not, you should find a place with good visibility. Children need to understand the dangers of crossing between parked cars and the need to look for a safe alternative wherever possible.



**Where is the safest place to cross the road and why?**

*Talk about why you have chosen to cross here and discuss any possible dangers such as whether traffic has to stop*

*(Cars do not always indicate correctly or stop at zebra crossings)*

## 3. Stop

Children need to understand that they must stop at the kerb before crossing. Unlike adults, children cannot look and listen properly whilst continuing to walk along the pavement.

**Why should we stop before we cross the road?**

*We need time to look and listen properly*

**Where is the kerb?**

*At the edge of the pavement*

### Key

*Purple type* – Parents' information

**Bold type** – Suggested activities and questions to ask children

*Italic type* – Suggested answers

## 1. Pavements

*Pavements are for people, roads are for traffic. Pavements are safer than roads but traffic sometimes needs to cross them.*

*Where there is more than one child, parents may decide to hold each child's hand rather than have both children on the inside. If one is in a pushchair, the other child could walk on the inside holding onto the frame of the pushchair.*