



St. John's
CE Primary School

Headteacher: **Amanda Aze**
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Walking safely to and from school

After an incident that has taken place this week we would like to share some information with you about children walking to and from school at start and end of days.

Most of our children are brought to school/collected from school by a family member or known adult. However as children move into Year 5 and Year 6 they may have permission to walk to school without an adult. If this is the case please can you ensure you discuss the following information with your child.

- Before children start to walk to school independently, set out the route you expect them to take and run through this with them.
- Always incorporate traffic lights or zebra crossings into the route. It is fundamental that your child is confident using both - you can establish how well they are familiar with it by both of you practicing using it together at first and then getting them to do it with minimal prompting and input from you.
- Remind your child to stick **ONLY** to the route that you have practiced with them. It is important to highlight to them from a safety point of view that they should **NEVER** be talked into changing the route or taking a short cut by their friends.
- We strongly encourage children to walk to school with a friend/group of friends so that they are not on their own.
- Whilst you want your child to have fun and gain some socialising time with their peers it is also necessary to teach them of the kind of dangers that can occur when they play chase or push each other e.g. falling or tripping on to the road.
- Your child should be taught **NEVER** to take rides from other people that have not been arranged by you. This includes people who children may know as well as strangers.
- If your child is approached by someone they do not know they should go to the nearest shop or public building to seek help.

The Golden Rules for Crossing the Road Safely

Please practice this with your child

1. Stop at the kerb or edge of the street.
2. Look left, right, left and behind you and in front of you for traffic.
3. Wait until no traffic is coming and begin crossing.
4. Keep looking for traffic until you have finished crossing.
5. Walk, don't run across the street.

Keeping children safe is, and always will be, our number one priority.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Aze', written on a light blue rectangular background.

Amanda Aze
Head teacher