



Do Your Part to Make Crossing the Street Safer!

Your driving impacts how safely your children and their friends can get to and from school. Whether school children walk, bike, or get dropped off, you play a key role in their safety. Please keep these in mind as you're out in your community:

- 1. Follow the directions given by crossing guards.** Crossing guards will use hand signals and their STOP paddles to indicate when drivers need to stop to allow students to cross the street.
- 2. Be aware of children's small size.** Children can be blocked from view by buses, cars, and even snowbanks.
- 3. Obey speed limits.** The school zone speed limit in Massachusetts is 20 MPH.
- 4. Reduce speed when approaching a crosswalk.** Scan the intersection to make sure there are no children approaching the crosswalk or roadway.
- 5. Yield at crosswalks.** Massachusetts law states that drivers must yield at a crosswalk if a pedestrian is walking in that half of the road or is within 10 feet of crossing that half of the road.
- 6. Do not pass other vehicles stopped at a crosswalk.**



Teach your child how to cross the street safely.

Make sure your child knows these street-crossing tips and be a good role model when you cross the street with them.

1. **Use designated crosswalks and follow walk signals** to safely cross the street.
2. **Look all around you** before crossing the street, even if you are at a crosswalk or a walk signal.
3. **Watch for signs that a car is about to move**, such as rear lights, the sounds of the motor and wheels turning.
4. **Try to establish eye contact with a driver** who is approaching a crosswalk or entering/exiting a driveway.
5. **Allow the driver to come to a complete stop** before you begin to cross the street.
6. **Walk – don't run** – across the street and be aware of your surroundings.