

Road Safety Policy

At St. Philomena's Catholic School, we believe that a road safety policy provides a framework of common understanding for children, staff, parents/guardians and the community who interact with the school to provide a safe environment. The main intention of this policy is to ensure the health, safety and welfare of our children who use the services and facilities of this school. St Philomena's School is concerned about all issues relating to road safety, both within the curriculum and day to day practices such as travel to the school and organised school trips. St Philomena's School feels that the main responsibility for the pupils' safety lies with the parents/guardians. However, the joint approach of everyone concerned with the care of the children has been proved to be the most effective way of teaching road safety. St Philomena's School will, when necessary, liaise with the Local Authority Road Safety Manager.

Aim

To ensure that children, their parents and teachers are safe on the roads.

School Premises

- Teaching staff supervise the gates at the end of the school day.
- Parents are encouraged to wait for their children within the two entrance areas away from the pavement.
- The School has staggered departure times; Early Years/KS1 3.30pm, KS2 3.45pm.
- All children must be met by a parent or designated person. Any alternative arrangement must be made known to the School.

Parents

- Must observe the road markings at the School gates.
- Ensure that children are restrained correctly in cars.
- Help their children develop road safety skills.
- Encourage them to become independent and responsible road users.

School Trips

- Parents will be notified before any School trip within the local area. A consent form will have been signed in relation to short excursions off School premises.
- Adequate adult supervision will be provided.
- Adults accompanying trips will be fully briefed on their responsibilities and duties.
- Fluorescent jackets will be worn by staff and escorts on all trips that involve walking and crossing road.
- Adults should walk on the roadside of the pavement.
- One adult should be at the rear of the group and others spaced at intervals.
- When crossing a road any accompanying adults should follow the direction of the teacher in charge.
- Enough time will be allowed for a safe journey and if appropriate, children will be involved in the planning of the route.

A First Aid Kit will be taken on all out of school trips and visits.

Pedestrian trips

- When crossing roads, safe crossing places will be used. If zebra or pelican crossings are used, the teacher in charge will proceed to the centre of the crossing only when vehicles in both directions have stopped and the adult helpers will lead the children across the road.

Bus/Coach Trips

- The children will wait inside the School until the bus has arrived. Children will remain seated throughout the journey and not distract the driver. The teacher or adult helper will disembark first. Seatbelts will be worn at all times by the adults and children. Orange cones are used by staff to indicate coach pick-up and set-down areas immediately outside the main school building.

Transport of pupils in parents' cars

- Parents transporting children in their own vehicles must have a full driving licence. Their insurance policy must be valid and sufficient for this purpose. There must be the correct number of operational seatbelts and it is the responsibility of the driver to ensure that they are worn. Booster seats must be used where appropriate.
- In the event of an accident a designated adult will take responsibility for the group whilst the incident is dealt with. A qualified first aider will accompany all trips.

Bicycles

- Form VI children will be allowed to cycle to School once they have passed the Bikeability Course.
- Younger children should cycle to School with their parents/guardians.
- Cycle helmet must be worn by all cyclists.

(May 2017 - to be reviewed May 2019)