

## Keeping children safe in and out of the car

A child who is properly secured in an approved child car seat is less likely to be killed or injured in a crash than one who is not.

Children aged between four and seven years cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows, unless all other back seats are occupied by children younger than seven years in a child car seat.

National child restraint laws require your child to be restrained in the car as follows:

### 0 – 6 months

Approved rear-facing child car seat.

### 6 months – 4 years

Approved rear or forward-facing child car seat.

### 4+ years

Approved forward-facing child car seat or booster seat.

### 145cm or taller

Suggested minimum height to use adult lap-sash belt.

For more information and to find and compare a range of child car seats, visit

**[childcarseats.com.au](http://childcarseats.com.au)**

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children safe in and out of the car:

- Children should remain in the car until an adult opens the 'Safety Door'. This is the rear footpath side door of the car.
- A sleeping child must remain firmly buckled up while in the car.
- Assist your children to buckle up – always check the seatbelt is buckled up firmly and not twisted.
- Make it a rule that every passenger must be securely buckled into a seatbelt or child car seat before you start the car.
- Always help your child get in and out of the car through the 'Safety Door'.

Never leave a child of any age in a vehicle without adult supervision. Children may rapidly suffer from dehydration, heat exhaustion and organ failure if left unattended, especially on hot days.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the **families** section on **[safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)**



### Messages to share with your children

- Click, clack, front and back
- Always buckle up safely
- Get in and out of the car on the footpath side

## Hold your child's hand

As pedestrians, children can be easily distracted and are often too small to be seen by drivers. They may be unable to predict or identify dangers and tend to act impulsively.

Talk with your child about safe behaviour on the footpath – it's not a safe place to play as it is near the road and vehicles may be entering or exiting driveways.

Until your child is at least eight years old, hold their hand:

- on the footpath
- in the car park
- when crossing the road.

Up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.

If you can't be with your child, organise for another trusted adult to accompany them.

After school, meet your child at the school gate. At the end of the school day children may be excited, distracted or tired and often not concentrating on their own safety.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the **families** section on [safetytown.com.au](https://www.safetytown.com.au)



### Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 2

- Hold a grown up's hand when:
  - you cross the road
  - you're on the footpath
  - you're in a car park
- Hold an adult's hand when you cross the road

### Messages to share with children in Years 3 to 6

- Use a safe place to cross the road
- **Stop! Look! Listen! Think!** every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across