

Tips on how to keep your child/children safe when arriving & leaving school



Make them aware of their surroundings when out

- Ear phones & ear pods can make them vulnerable & less aware of their surroundings, either do not use them or only have one ear pod in, so they can hear what is going on around them
- Vehicle & strangers on the street can be a threat, stay alert, this means looking up & not looking at their phones. This will also stop them walking in front of a car or bike.
- Have conversations with them about the safest route home, avoiding shortcuts and known trouble areas.
- When crossing the road either use zebra crossings or traffic lights and wait for the Green Man.
- If a van or car stops to ask for directions, tell them **not to stop** and speak to them, this may be away of getting them into the vehicle.
- If they feel unsafe, get them to run to the closest shop & ask for help.

Keep their belongings out of sight

- Keep phones & gadgets in their pockets, don't advertise valuables
- Smartphones in particular are attractive to thieves, maybe get them a more basic model.
- Many of the latest mobile phones have apps that can help you find your phone – make sure you downloaded these and they're switched on.
- Mark their belongings clearly: it makes them less of a target as they will be harder to sell on.
- Be careful where they leave their bags and jackets, ie. left on the backs of chairs or as goal posts when playing football.
- **Have them walk home with a friend, group or an older sibling**
- **Maybe get them a Personal Alarm, OR get them to yell out Help/go away OR make a lot of noise to frighten off any potential attackers**
- **Do not accept sweets or vapes from anyone, as these could be drugs, disguised to look like sweets etc.**
- **Never get into a stranger's car, even if the occupant says 'oh your mum has asked me to pick you up'.**

STAY ALERT & DON'T GET HURT

