



Royal Bahamas Police Force

Working together for a safe Bahamas

Back to School Safety Tips for Motorists

Motorists Beware - School has Started

Unfortunately, the beginning of school is also a time when children are at increased risk of transportation-related injuries from pedestrian, school bus, and motor vehicle crashes. The reason is fairly obvious; there are many more children on the road each morning and afternoon, as well as an overall change in motorists' patterns. As schools open their doors, it's time for motorists to improve their traffic safety practices. The following tips can help make this a safe and happy school year for the whole community:

- Slow down. Obey all traffic laws and speed limits.
- Be extra cautious around school crossing areas, slow down and watch for children on the way to school.
- When driving in neighborhoods or school zones, watch for children who may be in a hurry to get to school and may not be thinking about getting there safely.
- The posted speed limit in school zones is 15 MPH from 7:30am - 9:00am and 2:30pm – 4pm.
- Allow children waiting at a pedestrian crossing to cross.
- Be alert and ready to stop. Watch for children walking in the street, especially where there are no sidewalks.
- When using an intersection where children are trying to cross, slow down; make eye contact with the children to determine what they are going to do next.
- Always stop for a jitney or school bus that has stopped to load and unload passengers
- Before entering a pedestrian crossing area, be sure there are no children in the lane or adjacent lanes.
- When passing a parked vehicle, check for children who may run out into the street.
- When approaching a school bus that has stopped to drop off or pick up students, motorists must stop a safe distance behind.
- When approaching a school speed zone reduce speed below the required speed limit and maintain it until the end of the school zone.
- During school hours Motor Vehicle Laws will be strictly enforced.

Please share this information with every driver in your family. Let's all work together to have a safe school year.

Police Emergency
911

National Crime Prevention Office
302-8430/1

Crime Stoppers
328-TIPS (8477)

"To make The Bahamas a safer place to live, work, visit and play."