



# School Zone

## What is the Brampton Safety Council?

Brampton Safety Council is a committee made up of citizen members from our community, as well as representatives from the City of Brampton, the two school boards, Peel Regional Police, Brampton Safe City and Student Transportation of Peel Region. It reports to Brampton City Council on matters related to traffic safety around schools.

## Drive Safely

Children represent a large percentage of pedestrians, especially in residential areas. In comparison to adults, children have one-third less peripheral vision and are less experienced in understanding traffic patterns and signals.

As a driver, please exercise extra caution in school zones – especially in the winter months, when days are shorter and streets are slippery.

- Approach intersections with caution, even if you have a green light. Never assume that pedestrians – or other drivers – see you.
- Expect the unexpected – pedestrians can be unpredictable or impulsive.
- Obey the posted speed limits. Studies show that a pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling at 60 km/h is 70 per cent more likely to be seriously injured than a pedestrian struck at 50 km/h.

temperatures below -25°C are considered too cold for walking)

- Wear warm, waterproof boots, woolen clothing to retain heat, and a warm coat that deflects the wind
- Wear clothing or carry knapsacks with reflective material – it's important to be seen
- If possible, change wet clothes at school – tuck an extra pair of socks and mitts into knapsacks

## Crossing Guards

As mentioned in our last newsletter, Brampton provides school crossing guards for children in kindergarten to grade 5. For a full list of crossing guard locations, visit [www.brampton.ca/roadworks](http://www.brampton.ca/roadworks) and click on **Pedestrian** and **Driver Safety** > **Crossing Guards**.

for students and – as always – do not leave your vehicle unattended in Kiss and Ride lanes.

For more Kiss and Ride tips, read the September issue of School Zone. Visit [www.brampton.ca/roadworks](http://www.brampton.ca/roadworks) and click on **Pedestrian** and **Driver Safety** > **School Zone Newsletter**.

## Countdown Timers

Pedestrian signals are often misunderstood, especially by younger children who may be new at walking to school. That's why the City installs pedestrian countdown timers at all new and upgraded traffic signals in the city.

Used with the flashing "don't walk" symbol at crosswalks, these timers count down the number of seconds left for pedestrians to safely cross the intersection before the traffic light turns yellow. Please don't start crossing if there is not enough time for you to get across safely.



## Bundle up!

When walking to school, make sure you dress appropriately. Green Communities Canada has these tips for dressing for winter walking:

- Keep your hands and head covered to prevent heat loss
- On really cold days, wear a scarf over your face and mouth (and remember that

## Kiss and Ride Reminder

Now that the cold weather is here, more parents are driving their kids to school. Please remember the importance of using your school's Kiss and Ride area properly.

- Please familiarize yourself with which lanes are used for drop-off and which are drive-through only, as snow may cover directional lines on the pavement.
- Plowed snow piles in school parking lots naturally limit spaces for parked vehicles and create a visibility hazard. As a driver, please slow down, have greater awareness

## Contact Us

If you have a school traffic safety issue you would like to bring to the attention of the Brampton Safety Council, please contact Terri Brenton in the City Clerk's Office at the City of Brampton

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