

Children's crossings



Children's crossings are provided near schools to assist pedestrians, particularly children, to cross the road.

A children's crossing is a part-time crossing that operates when one or more orange children crossing flags are displayed. The crossing is marked by white lines on the road and by red and white striped posts on each kerb.

Children's crossings provide all pedestrians and cyclists (including adults) priority over motorists. Vehicles must stop at the white hold lines and remain stationary until the crossing is completely clear of all pedestrians.

To ensure motorists have good visibility of approaching pedestrians, vehicles must not stop on a children's crossing, on the road within 20 metres before the crossing, or within 10 metres after the crossing.



HOW TO USE A CHILDREN'S CROSSING

Children need to be taught how to cross the road safely, even when using a children's crossing. While children have right of way over motor vehicles at a children's crossing, it is important to remember that children are less visible to drivers and need to cross with caution.

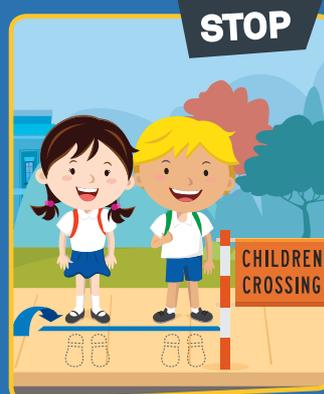
Children should be taught to:

- STOP** – in a safe location at the crossing, a metre or so from the road
- LOOK** – in both directions for traffic and try to make eye contact with any approaching drivers
- LISTEN** – for approaching vehicles or any hazards
- THINK** – is it safe to cross? Have all approaching vehicles completely stopped?

NOTE:



Children should only step onto the crossing once approaching vehicles have completely stopped.





HOW SHOULD MOTORISTS USE A CHILDREN'S CROSSING?

Motorists need to drive cautiously and be aware when approaching a children's crossing. Motorists should:

- 1 Drive at a safe speed through the school zone (which may be well below 40km/h)
- 2 Slow down on the approach to the crossing, in anticipation of pedestrians
- 3 Stop safely before the white hold lines if a pedestrian is approaching the crossing
- 4 Only proceed once the crossing is completely clear of all pedestrians (including adults and crossing supervisors)

When the crossing flags are displayed, the crossing rules are in operation and motorists must give way to pedestrians, regardless of the time of day.



WHAT IF THERE IS A CROSSING SUPERVISOR PATROLLING THE CROSSING?



School crossing supervisors (lollipop people) patrol a selection of busy crossings (pedestrian or children's) near schools in the ACT. At these crossings pedestrians, cyclists and motorists simply need to follow the instructions provided by the supervisor.

Supervisors stop traffic with their stop sign and will blow their whistle twice indicating it is safe to cross.

Motorists should only proceed through the crossing once the supervisor has left the road and the stop sign is no longer visible.

Supervisors work in busy environments to increase safety for children, be patient, polite and respectful to allow them to undertake their duties.

Road safety is everyone's responsibility. Remember to follow the road rules and be alert at all times in school environments to ensure children remain safe.