

Suggested Routes to School

Discover the safest and easiest ways to walk and bike to school. Follow these safety tips and use the City's Suggested Routes to School map to find kid-friendly paths and crosswalks for a safer, healthier journey!

Walking and Biking Dos and Don'ts

Review these dos and don'ts to help ensure a safe trip to school.

Practice a Safe Route Together

- Walk on sidewalks. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left side, facing cars.
- Stop at crosswalks and intersections. Look left-right-left, then wait for a walk signal or a safe gap in traffic.
- Demonstrate safe habits consistently — children copy what they see.
- Be aware of visibility, especially at dawn, dusk, or in the rain.

Practice Safety Out Loud

- Say "Stop, Look, and Listen" every time you cross, and say it out loud.
- Praise safe choices. Use encouragement and small rewards to make safety fun.
- Talk about stranger danger and safe behaviors.



Wear a Helmet

- Riders under 18 must wear a properly fitted helmet.
- Check the helmet fit: Two fingers above the eyebrows, a V under the ears, and one finger between the chin and strap.



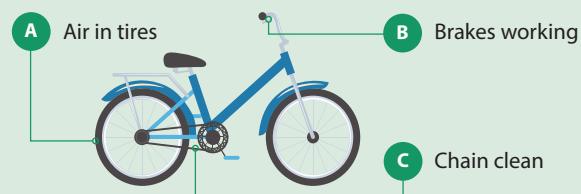
Be Predictable

- California law requires that bikes have front white lights, rear red reflectors/lights, and pedal/side reflectors at night.
- Use hand signals.

Make Safety Fun

- Walk with your family, friends, neighbors, or pets.
- Use a simple game of "Red Light, Green Light" to practice stopping and going.
- Go on a scavenger hunt to find crosswalks, signs, and sidewalks.

Perform an ABC Quick Check Before Each Ride



Ride Right — Ride with Traffic not Against it

- Stay to the right of cars. Obey stop signs, signals, and lane rules, just like cars.
- Give parked cars extra space to avoid the "door zone."
- Always assume that drivers may not see them.
- Use bike lanes, slow-traffic streets, and designated school routes when possible.
- Practice a route until you feel confident.



E-Bike Safety

- E-Bike riders must follow the same rules as vehicles when riding on roads. Irvine Municipal Code allows riders to use sidewalks unless signs prohibit.
- E-Bikes are much heavier, making them harder to maneuver at high speeds. Learn the mechanics of the E-Bike with your child so that they can ride confidently.
- In busy areas or when parking, get in the habit of setting the E-Bike to Level 0 or powering down completely to avoid accidentally turning on the motor.



Avoid these Behaviors

- Don't use earbuds/headphones or cell phones when walking or riding a bike. They make it more difficult to react quickly.
- Do not run between parked cars. Bike riders should not weave between cars.
- Do not ride against traffic — it's dangerous and illegal.

