



Back to School Safety Tips

September is just around the corner and that means school will be back in session. Now is the time to review these simple safety rules & tips.

- If your child is going to walk to school, take a few “trial runs” with him/her on that route and make sure he/she is comfortable with it.
- Discuss traffic signals, stop signs, and the importance of cooperating with adult crossing guards, school safety patrols and police personnel with your child.
- Remember that the speed limit in a school zone and adjacent residential areas is 25 mph.
- When a crossing guard is crossing traffic and holding up a “STOP” sign, no traffic may enter or pass through that crosswalk. Once the crossing guard has returned to the curb and lowered the “STOP” sign, then traffic may proceed.
- A driver approaching a school bus, with flashing red lights activated, from behind must always stop behind the bus and stay there until the flashing red lights are turned off.
- A driver approaching a school bus, with flashing red lights activated, from the opposite direction, must also stop and stay stopped until the flashing red lights are turned off before passing the school bus unless the bus is on the opposite side of a divided or multi-laned roadway (i.e. raised center median, two sets of painted double yellow lines, two or more lanes of traffic in each direction)
- A driver approaching a school bus with flashing yellow lights activated does not need to stop but should proceed with caution as children may be crossing the street, or nearby streets, after exiting that bus.

For more information or questions related to school safety tips in Rancho Santa Margarita, please call Police Services at (949) 635-1819.

