



# SAFETY IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY

## WHAT PARENTS CAN DO TO HELP

### CREATE A SAFE HOME

Be sure . . .

- Young children can recite their full name, the full name of their parent or guardian, their telephone number and home address.
- To tell your child never to talk to strangers or allow strangers to enter your home.
- Your child has access to a home phone and knows how to dial 911 in case of emergency.
- You know the names of your child's friends.
- Your child follows curfew laws.
- You are aware of your child's Internet activities.
- To talk with and listen to your child. Children can suffer in silence when they are being bullied, harassed, recruited by gangs or victimized by negative peer pressure.

### CREATE A SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL

Teach your child to . . .

- Take the safest route to and from school. Walk your child to school or have them walk with a buddy when possible.
- Look both ways before crossing the street.

#### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

City of Chicago..... 911  
 Student Safety Center (open 24/7)..... (773) 553-3335  
 Parent Support Center..... (773) 553-3772  
 Education Policy and Procedures ..... (773) 553-1216  
 Student Transportation Services ..... (773) 553-2860  
 Student's School \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bus Company \_\_\_\_\_

- Not to wear headphones or talk on cell phones when going to and from school.
- Never to talk, enter a vehicle or accept anything from strangers.
- Listen for approaching trains and traffic and never cross railroad tracks when warning lights are flashing or the gate is down.
- Not to walk along railroad tracks or take shortcuts through alleys.
- Avoid touching stray animals. Report animal bites to an adult immediately.
- Cross streets at the crosswalk, traffic light or special school crossing.
- Obey the directions of the school crossing guard.
- Avoid vacant lots or buildings.
- Never touch needles or other suspicious or dangerous objects.
- Recognize locations of safe havens.
- Walk safely to the school bus.
- Never touch powerlines or electric boxes.
- Never jump on the back of moving vehicles.

### CREATE A SAFE BUS RIDE TO SCHOOL

Teach your child to . . .

- Be at the school bus stop five minutes prior to the scheduled pick-up time.
- Remain at the curb while waiting for the bus.
- Be alert when approaching the bus.
- Never walk or run in front of a school bus.
- Obey the school bus rules, bus aide and driver.
- Use a seat belt and stay seated during the entire bus ride.
- Be courteous to all passengers.
- Stay out of the bus danger zone (10 feet in front of the bus and 6 feet to the left and right.)
- Never walk behind a school bus.

### CREATE A SAFE RIDE TO SCHOOL

If you drive your child or your child drives to and from school . . .

- Wear seat belts and utilize an earpiece when talking on cell phones. It's the law.
- Drop off and pick up your child only in designated safe areas.

- Have your child exit and enter the car on the sidewalk side in front of the school.
- Don't drive or ride with a driver under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Park only in designated student or parent parking areas.

### CREATE A SAFE SCHOOL

Be an active parent at the school by:

- Accompanying your child to the school bus stop and meeting the bus at the stop in the afternoon.
- Knowing the name of the school principal and the name(s) of your child's teacher(s).
- Knowing the school's daily schedule and annual calendar.
- Providing the school with a current and emergency home address and phone number.
- Talking with your child's teacher(s) about any concerns of student safety and how you can work together for the safety of all children.
- Discussing with your child and supporting the CPS Student Code of Conduct.
- Volunteering in your child's school.
- Joining or organizing a School Parent Patrol.
- Reporting to the principal unsafe conditions in and around the school.

### CREATE A SAFE COMMUNITY

Be part of the community by:

- Joining the local police district's CAPS program.
- Organizing a Walking School Bus program in your neighborhood.
- Reporting any suspicious neighborhood activities to the police.
- Starting or participating in a Neighborhood Watch safety program.
- Identifying a home or apartment that your child can go to in case of an emergency.
- Participating in gang awareness workshops.
- Becoming aware of the identifiers that gangs use.
- Removing graffiti from your property as soon as possible.