

Signs: Use your hand-signals when turning, slowing down or stopping. Follow all posted signs and obey the traffic laws.

- **U**rban Awareness: See and be seen! Be aware of your surroundings and always leave one door length of space when riding next to parked cars. Wear light or bright coloured clothing, and use your lights and reflectors in low-light and at night.
- **Protection:** It's the law to wear your helmet when riding plus it protects your brain!

Every Example 7 Every Example 7 Contact: Communication is key! Make every contact with other road users such as

drivers and cyclists, especially when crossing intersections.

Right hand side: Ride single file and as far to the right hand side of the road as practical.

🚷 Use Your Street SMARTS

- **Sidewalks:** Walk on the sidwalks, if possible. Stay on the inside edge, and stand back from the curb when waiting to cross the street. No sidewalk? Walk facing traffic so you can see approaching vehicles.
- **Wisic:** If you are listening to music, remove an ear piece before crossing the street or walking in less populated areas.

Attention: Look out for moving vehicles at driveways, back lanes, and in parking lots.

Road Crossing: Always cross at an intersection or crosswalk if available. Make eye contact with the drivers to make sure you are seen. Be bold, extend your arm to indicate you want to cross!

Team-Up: It is safer and fun to walk to school with other family members or friends.

Stranger-aware: On no account ever go with a stranger. Practice and remember a special family password that only a trusted adult knows. With your family, identify safe places to go for help.

Best Routes to School are developed based on information we've received from parents, your school community and the City's transportation department. They are chosen to use the safest crossing points and to enable more people walk and cycle together.



SAFETY IN NUMBERS

Time pressure? On your way somewhere else? Parents and neighbours can team up to share the responsibilities of walking to or from school. Older students may be encouraged to walk or cycle with friends or with their younger siblings.

PARK AND WALK A BLOCK OR TWO

Too far to walk and cycle? Help relieve traffic congestion around your school. Park legally and safely a block or two away from the school entrance. Skip the traffic and enjoy a little extra active time outside.

UNMARKED CROSSWALKS

Pay special attention at intersections with unmarked crosswalks. Make eye contact with the vehicle driver in all road lanes, make sure they see you and that the vehicle stops before you cross the road.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

Improvements have been achieved through the City of Coquitlam Accessible Intersection Program. There is greater visibility to walking students along Smith Avenue.

New sidewalk will be constructed on Robinson Street between Regan Avenue and Seaton Avenue.

The City of Coquitlam and TransLink have exciting plans. These include connecting the new Evergreen Line Burquitlam Station and the new Burquitlam YMCA site with your neighbourhoods via walk and bike greenways.

RIDE TRANSIT

LOOK FOR BUS STOPS CLOSE TO SCHOOL ON YOUR BEST ROUTES TO SCHOOL MAP

Transit can be fun! Families can take the route together a few times before it becomes a solo trip. Remember the bus driver is your friend, sit close to them and they can help.

For transit to school, work or play visit TransLink at **translink.ca** or call 604-953-3333.

Why Walk or Bike to School?



BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

BEING ACTIVE BUILDS HEALTHY BONES AND MINDS. Walking or biking to school is not only a great way to be healthy and keep moving but has also shown to increase alertness and grades at school.

FAMILY AND FRIEND TIME

TIME SPENT WALKING TOGETHER allows families and friends to connect without stressful distractions. It is a time to unwind, play or share stories about each other's day.

KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY. Walking and cycling is a great way to meet your neighbours. People feel safer when they know other people in their community.



VEHICLE EMISSIONS ARE THE LARGEST CAUSE OF POOR AIR QUALITY IN BC and are individual Canadians' greatest source of green house gas emissions. Every vehicle trip replaced by walking reduces our contribution to climate change.

To find out more about safe, active trips to school visit



HASTe: hastebc.org National: saferoutestoschool.ca TravelSmart: TravelSmart.ca City of Coquitlam: coquitlam.ca

Travel







Mountain View Elementary School

Best Routes to School

