



## Using public and community transport

### Dear family

Did you know that children travelling on public or community transport are at most risk when getting on and off a bus, especially in the afternoon? This is when many children try to cross the road from the front or rear of the bus before the bus has left, which increases their risk of being hit by a passing vehicle.

The risks can also change depending on where your children live.

#### In country areas

- Children getting off buses may need to cross roads where the speed of traffic is generally faster.
- Bus stops might be difficult for car drivers to see.
- Bends in roads, trees and bushes make it hard for children to see traffic.

#### In city areas

- Children have to deal with more traffic.
- There are more passengers getting on and off buses (and trains).

✎ It is important to behave safely when you travel on public or community transport because...

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_

### At-Home Activity

As your child grows older, he/she will take responsibility for decision-making in the traffic environment. Your guidance now will help them to become safer.

#### ➤ Remind your child to:

- consider other passengers and the driver
- put all belongings out of the way
- stay in their seat, if one is available, while the vehicle is moving
- hold on to the rail if no seat is available
- keep their feet off the seats and arms and legs inside
- wait for the vehicle to stop, then alight quickly in a sensible way
- wait for the bus to leave before trying to cross and use the systematic search strategy (stop, look, listen, think).



#### ➤ Help your child to develop strategies to use if they are encouraged by their friends to take risks.

Thank you for playing a vital role in your child's road safety education.

Classroom Teacher