

Drivers still need to be careful with kids back at school

School has officially started, and Caledon OPP is issuing a reminder that it's up to both drivers and pedestrians to keep everyone safe on the road.

For Pedestrians and Parents

- ? Cross only at marked crosswalks or traffic lights. Don't cross in the middle of the block or between parked cars.
- ? Make sure drivers see you before you cross. If the driver is stopped, make eye contact before you step into the road.
- ? Wear bright or light coloured clothing or reflective strips, especially at dusk or when it's dark.
- ? Watch out for blind corners (for example, a car coming out of an alley may not see a child pedestrian about to cross).

At a Traffic Light

- ? Cross when traffic has come to a complete stop.
- ? Begin to cross at the start of the green light or ?Walk? signal, where provided.
- ? Do not start to cross if you see a flashing ?Do Not Walk? symbol or the light turns yellow. If you already started to cross, complete your crossing in safety.
- ? Never cross on a red light.
- ? Watch for traffic turning at intersections or turning into and leaving driveways.

For Drivers

As of Jan. 1, 2016, drivers, including cyclists, must stop and yield the whole roadway at pedestrian crossovers, school crossings and other locations where there is a crossing guard.

Pay special attention to pedestrians.

- ? Always look for pedestrians, especially when turning.
- ? Watch for children. Drive slowly and cautiously through school zones, residential areas, or any other area where children could be walking or playing.
- ? Watch out for Community Safety Zone signs that indicate areas where public safety is a special concern, including the possibility of encountering pedestrians.
- ? Be patient, especially with seniors or pedestrians with disabilities who need more time to cross the road.

Fines

Drivers will be fined \$150 to \$500 and three demerit points for offences at pedestrian crossings, school crossings and at crosswalks where there are traffic signals. The maximum fine for running a red light ? a practice that puts pedestrians at risk ? is \$200 to \$1000.

Fines for offences are doubled in Community Safety Zones, near schools and public areas. These areas are clearly marked with signs.

Caledon OPP continues to promote public awareness for both drivers and pedestrians to ensure the safety of all.