

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA

An Garda Síochána
Baile Bhlainséir
Baile Átha Cliath 15

Tel/Teileafón: (01) 666 7000
Fax/Facs: (01) 666 7040

Our ref:



Garda Station
Blanchardstown
Dublin 15

Web site: www.garda.ie
E-mail:

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ROAD SAFETY AT SCHOOL

Many local schools suffer from obstructive parking and congestion which causes problems on a daily basis reducing visibility for children crossing the road.

School Traffic Warden

The role of the school warden is to ensure that school children cross public roads on their way to/from school safely. Together with the Gardaí, School Traffic Wardens are officials in Ireland who have the authority to stop other vehicles on public roads.

School Traffic Wardens wear a distinctive uniform (a high-visibility coat and hat). Wardens must also carry a distinctive sign (a white disc with a red border and the words "Stop" in the centre).

The School Traffic Warden has the power to exhibit the sign thereby requiring all traffic to stop and remain stopped to enable school children to cross the road in safety. Traffic must remain stopped as long as the warden exhibits the sign.

Double Yellow Lines

No parking on double –yellow line at any time.

Exceptions: You can park on a double yellow line for a maximum of 30 minutes while actively loading or unloading a vehicle of goods.

Zebra Crossing

The crossing area is marked by black and white 'zebra' stripes. This is marked by yellow beacons. Drivers must STOP to let pedestrians cross. As drivers approach the crossing they should slow and be prepared to stop. They must stop behind the stop line if there is one and must not enter any part of the crossing. Drivers must not overtake or park within areas covered by zig-zag markings on either side of the crossing.

Parking Restrictions

- No Parking opposite a continuous white line
- No parking on a footpath.
- No parking within 5 meters of a junction
- No parking at a pedestrian crossing or traffic lights, within 15 meters on the approach side or 5 meters on the other side.
- Do not obstruct any entrance for vehicles except with the occupier's consent.
- No parking at a school entrance.
- No parking on a grass margin or median.
- No parking on a roundabout.

Contravention of Road Traffic Laws may result in fines, summonses or penalty points.

Tips for parents:

Plan ahead and be alert of children near or around junctions.

When dropping children off in a school area stop and allow them to exit the vehicle onto the footpath side.

Do not block buses or use designated bus only areas for dropping off or picking up children.

Do not double park or exit a vehicle in a set down area.

Belt up- It is the drivers' responsibility to ensure all persons under 17 years of age wear their seatbelt.

Children must be carried in appropriate child seats. A seat for each passenger.

Tips for students:

Use crossing points and follow crossing signals where available.

If there is a central island, treat each side as a separate crossing.

Remove headphones when crossing the road.

Dress to be seen- wear bright colours or reflective material whenever possible.

Always be aware of your surroundings.

Remember if you can't see the driver, they may not see you.

Community Gardaí monitor school traffic for the safety of road users and pedestrians. For more information please see www.garda.ie.

Be Safe Be Seen