

Using pedestrian crossings safely



Our School Crossing Supervisors play an important role helping children cross busy roads on the way to and from school.

To make sure this journey is safe for everyone, you must obey these rules at the crossing:

- listen to the supervisor
- get off bikes and skateboards before crossing
- stop, look, listen and think
- put away anything that could be a distraction, such as a mobile phone
- wait at the kerb until the crossing supervisor has blown their whistle twice then walk quickly and directly to the opposite footpath
- follow correct procedure for the crossing.

A school crossing has:

- stop lines marked on the road
- school crossing flags, children crossing signs and twin yellow lights (at some locations)
- two red and white posts on each side of the road, or two parallel continuous lines, or broken lines on the road from one side to the other or partly across and extending between the posts or lines
- pedestrian lights sometimes.

The role of the supervisor

- One blast of the supervisor's whistle means stop immediately.
- Two blasts of the whistle means it is safe to cross.
- Children should not stand too close to the road while waiting to be instructed to cross by the supervisor.
- Children should keep together and walk quickly and directly to the opposite footpath.
- If there is a large number of children who cannot all cross the road in reasonable time, the supervisor will allow as many as is feasible to cross and then halt the remainder.

Crossing at pedestrian lights

A pedestrian approaching or at an intersection, or another place on a road, with pedestrian lights and traffic lights must comply with these rules:

1. If the pedestrian lights show a red pedestrian light and the pedestrian has not already started crossing the intersection or road, the pedestrian must not start to cross until the pedestrian lights change to green.
2. If, while the pedestrian is crossing the road, the pedestrian lights change to flashing red or red, the pedestrian must not stay on the road for longer than is necessary to cross safely to the nearer (in the direction of travel of the pedestrian) of the following:
 - A. a dividing strip, safety zone, or traffic island, forming part of the area set aside or used by pedestrians to cross the road at the intersection or place (the safety area)
 - B. the nearest side of the road.
3. If, under sub rule 3, the pedestrian crosses to the safety area, the pedestrian must remain in the safety area until the pedestrian lights change to green.

4. However, if the pedestrian cannot operate the pedestrian lights from the safety area, the pedestrian may cross to the far side of the road when:
 - A. the traffic lights change to green or flashing yellow, or there is no red traffic light showing
 - B. it is safe to do so.
5. In this rule, road does not include a road-related area, but includes any shoulder of the road.

Using zebra crossings safely

There might not always be a supervisor at a zebra crossing. If you need to cross at a zebra crossing, wait for a break in traffic, then walk quickly and directly to the opposite footpath, continuing to look for oncoming traffic.

Penalties

| Penalties | Penalty |
|--|---------|
| Rule 2242 - Fail to obey traffic lights | \$79 |
| Rule 2241 - Fail to obey traffic direction given by a Police Officer or authorised person | \$317 |
| Rule 2246 - Cross within 20 metres of pedestrian crossing | \$79 |
| Rule 2243 - Walking improperly on road | \$79 |
| Rule 2236 - Ride Bicycle across a children's, pedestrian or marked foot crossing | \$159 |

Source: VICROADS ROAD SAFETY (DRIVERS) REGULATIONS 2009 (SR 95/2009) 2017/18 PENALTY AMOUNTS