

# PEDESTRIAN SAFETY WITH CHILDREN

## Kids need a hand in traffic

**Pedestrian injury is a leading cause of injury among children in Australia. They are counting on us to keep them safe near vehicles and around busy traffic environments.**

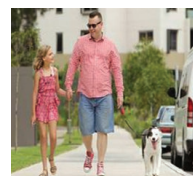


### **Why do kids need a hand in traffic?**

- Children are small, hard to see and can behave unpredictably
- Children are unable to judge speed and distance of oncoming traffic
- Children are still developing ability to recognise and respond to danger
- Children are often distracted and forget to look for hazards at intersections or busy roads

### **How can parents and adult carers give children a hand in traffic?**

- Hold hands until age of eight, when crossing and near busy traffic settings
- If your hands are full, ask them to hold onto a stroller, trolley, bag or clothing
- It is a good idea to closely supervise children until they are at least 10 years old
- Encourage them to cross at pedestrian crossings or signalised intersections, where possible
- Always ensure they get in and out of car via safety door (rear footpath side, never the traffic side)
- Never call out to children from across the road as they can dart across without checking for hazards
- When doing school run, always drop off or pick up children on school side of the road in designated areas
- Set a good example by modelling behaviour at all times as children invariably look up to adults for what to do
- Talk to them about observing and identifying dangerous situations, discuss strategies, travel routes and making safe choices



**Help children become safer pedestrians. Be vigilant and take care around young children**