

## GOOD CHOICES

### CROSSING THE STREET AT A CROSSWALK WITH CROSSWALK SIGNS OR AT A STOP SIGN

Crosswalks marked with signs and painted white lines across the street are available at many locations across the City. Crosswalks also exist crossing a street at an intersection with a stop sign even if there are no painted white lines or crosswalk signs. Pedestrians are allowed to cross the street and motorists are required to stop for pedestrians at these locations.

## CHOICES NEEDING EXTRA ATTENTION

### CROSSING THE STREET OTHER THAN AT A CROSSWALK

Pedestrians are allowed to cross most streets in the City where no crosswalks are available. However, motorists are not required to yield to pedestrians at these locations and therefore some additional tips are needed:

- Find an area to cross where traffic volumes are lower.
- Find an area to cross where you can see very far in either direction. Avoid curves or hills for example.
- Avoid crossing between parked vehicles or other locations where the view of a pedestrian by a motorist is blocked.

## GENERAL TIPS FOR CROSSING A STREET

No matter where your child crosses a street, there is no guarantee vehicles will stop. Here are a few tips that are useful no matter where they may cross:

- An extended arm is the universal sign to motorists that a pedestrian wants to cross the street.
- Bright coloured and reflective clothing at night will help motorists see pedestrians.
- Make sure the pedestrian can see the driver of a vehicle. If you can't see them, they can't see you.
- If vehicles are approaching, make sure they stop before crossing the street. Don't forget that vehicles can be approaching from either direction.
- Look both ways before you start to cross the street.
- Continue to look both ways until you reach the other side of the street.

### HERE TO HELP

City of Saint John Customer Service Centre

(506) 658-4455

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# SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN WALKING TO SCHOOL

The Active and Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) Program is a national program. This program and several of the measures identified in this brochure are highlighted in the City's Transportation Plan, known as MoveSJ.

Implementation of MoveSJ, and further enhancement of initiatives within it, will continue to allow all community partners to make Saint John streets safer for walking students, other pedestrians, and all other roadway users.

## FINDING THE SAFEST ROUTE TO SCHOOL

If your child walks to school it is important to identify a route that is as safe as possible. This document provides different choices from excellent ones to those that need particular attention so that you can develop a safe route for your child.

Practicing walking the route with your child is also important. This document also helps you identify risks and make choices.

Only you will be able to tell when your child reaches an age where they can walk to school without supervision.

### EXCELLENT CHOICES

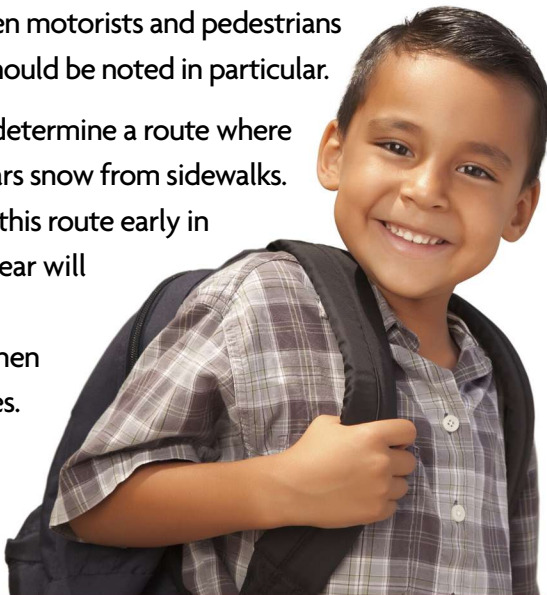
#### WALKING ON A STREET WITH A SIDEWALK

Sidewalks with a curb create a physical and visual separation between pedestrians and motorists.

A vehicle can cross the path of a pedestrian on a sidewalk at any driveway. Busy driveways or driveways where the view between motorists and pedestrians is blocked should be noted in particular.

It is best to determine a route where the City clears snow from sidewalks.

Establishing this route early in the school year will allow easier transition when winter arrives.



#### WALKING ON A STREET WITHOUT A SIDEWALK

Pedestrians walking on a street without a sidewalk should stay as far to the side of the road as possible and always on the left side facing traffic. Choose streets with lower traffic volumes

### VERY GOOD CHOICES

#### CROSSING THE STREET AT A CROSSWALK WITH TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Many traffic lights in the City have signals for pedestrians. These signals typically look like one of the following:



Some signals let the pedestrian know how much more time they have to finish crossing.

Pedestrians should start crossing the street only when the person symbol lights up.

The orange hand starts flashing next. If you already started crossing the street, don't stop, because you still have enough time to finish crossing the street. In fact, the City increased the amount of time so more pedestrians of all abilities can finish crossing the street.

Motorists must yield to pedestrians when the person symbol and orange hand is flashing.

Many traffic lights have buttons that the pedestrian needs to press to make the lights change. Look for these buttons as only some traffic lights have them. The lights won't change immediately, however, should in a few minutes when the button is pressed.

#### CROSSING THE STREET AT A CROSSWALK WITH FLASHING YELLOW LIGHTS

Some crosswalks in the City have flashing yellow lights on the side of the street, overhead, or both that look something like one of the following:



These types of crosswalks always have buttons for the pedestrians to press. The lights should start flashing as soon as the button is pressed.

#### CROSSING THE STREET WITH A CROSSING GUARD

Some crosswalks near schools have crossing guards. A child should wait for the crossing guard to enter the middle of the street and are told by the crossing guard it is safe to cross before doing so.

#### CROSSING THE STREET NEAR THE SCHOOL

Even if no crossing guards are present near a school, other measures are in place near most elementary schools to make crossing the street safer.

These areas are defined by signs as School Zones, which often include reduced speed limits, safer crosswalks, and other measures part of the City's Safer School Zone Program.

Crossing the street in defined School Zones is often a safer option.

