

Walking safely to school

At year 5 and 6, ākonga often begin walking to school without an adult. It is important to understand, know and do safety practices to avoid hazards and stay safe.

1. The kerb drill

Fill the gaps in the kerb drill using the words below. Cross each word out once you have used it.

kerb	listen	crossing	back	wait
traffic	wherever	directions	across	coming

Take one step _____ from the _____.

Look and listen for _____ coming from all _____.

If there is traffic coming, _____ until it has passed and then look and _____ for traffic again.

If there is no traffic _____, walk quickly straight _____ the road.

While _____, look and listen for traffic, _____ it may come from.

2. Matching safety tips

Using a line, join the safety tip beginnings to the correct endings.

Walk on the footpath, close to the houses and

shopping areas with lots of traffic.

Look and listen for traffic when

scooters, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Use pedestrian crossings or cross at

roads or where there are no footpaths.

Take care in car parks, school drop-off/pick-up points or busy

walking past driveways.

Walk facing oncoming traffic on rural

away from the road.

Share the footpath with others, including skaters,

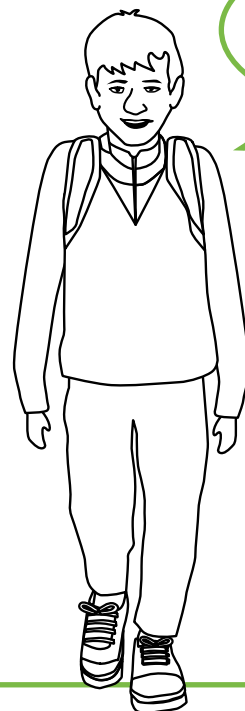
crossings with lights, wherever possible.

3. Blocked footpaths

If a vehicle is blocking the footpath, follow these steps:

- Check inside the vehicle to see if there's a driver.
- If you can see a driver, stop a couple of metres away and wait to see if they are going to move.
- If you can't see a driver, look and listen for signs the vehicle may move soon.
- If there's no driver in the car and the engine isn't running, walk around the vehicle on the house side.
- If there's no room on the house side, walk carefully around on the road side, looking and listening for traffic from all directions or go back and find a safe place to cross the road using the kerb drill.

Write down signs you might see, hear or notice that suggest a vehicle that is blocking the footpath may move soon:



Kia haumaru!
What are the safety
practices for walking
to school?

4. Walking in rural areas

When you're walking on country roads, it is important to follow these safety procedures:

- Walk facing oncoming traffic.
- Keep as far off the road as possible.
- Walk in single file, shortest person at the front, so everyone can see oncoming traffic.
- Listen very carefully. You may be able to hear vehicles that are approaching at high speed long before you see them.
- If a vehicle is coming, stop and stay back from the roadside until it has passed.
- Be extra careful if you can't see the road ahead clearly.

Draw a rural road setting with hazards. Circle the hazards in red.

In pairs, talk about the hazards in your drawing and how you would use the safety procedures above to avoid danger.

Do you walk to school? If so, what is the most relevant safety practice you've learnt today and why is it important for you to use?