

Key Points of Measures for Preventing Traffic Accidents Involving Children

Considerations for adults

- Acting as a good role model by following the traffic rules

Adults should not ignore traffic lights or cross a road at a point other than a pedestrian crossing, particularly in front of children.
Children do as adults do.
- Being considerate to children

If a child is about to cross a road, adults should ensure that the child can cross the road safely, by taking the following actions:

 - Driver → Stopping or slowing down the car
 - Non-driver → Protecting and guiding the child
- Slowing down the car to prepare for any child unexpectedly darting into the road
 - Around schools, kindergartens, and nursery centers, etc.
 - Along school routes, nursery centers' daily walking routes, and roads in residential areas

Considerations for parents

- Preventing a child from walking alone

Outside home, parents should hold small children's hands and always keep their eye on them.
Close watch is also needed in places other than roads, such as parking lots.
- Using child seats appropriately

Parents should understand the danger of non-use or inappropriate use of child seats, and always use them correctly.
A child seat that fits the child's size (a seat for infants, for toddlers/preschoolers, or for elementary schoolers) should be used.

Safety education for children

Education on how to cross roads

- Using pedestrian crossings, pedestrian overpasses, and traffic lights

Children should be taught to cross a road by using a pedestrian crossing or overpass or a traffic light, if there is one nearby.

○ Indicating the intention to cross the road and checking the safety

Children should be taught that, when crossing a road, they should “stop,” “look left and right carefully,” “clearly indicate their intention to cross the road to cars by, for example, raising their hand,” and “check that the cars around them are not moving.”

* They should always check this even if the light is green.

○ “Looking left and right carefully” also while crossing the road

Points to note in the education

- Children should be taught repeatedly on several occasions.
- Adults should check out dangerous intersections, etc. from “children’s viewpoints” together with children.
- Children should be taught that they are difficult to be seen by drivers.
- Audiovisual approaches, such as picture-card shows and ventriloquist puppet shows, should be used for toddlers/preschoolers to promote their understanding.