Road Safety Education for Children

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Abstract

Road safety is a great subject to engage children and young people. It’s a very important subject because everyone uses roads and road danger impacts on everyone. Children don’t have the same ability to judge distances, speed, and noise direction. Therefore, it’s really important to ensure that children have a good understanding of basic street safety when they start walking around the local and city streets without parents. Road safety education is a lifelong learning process, and educational measures need to be appropriate to the child’s stage of development, starting with practical pedestrian and then cyclist skills, but increasingly involving higher-level skills to match children’s increasing independence as pedestrians, cyclists and ultimately young adult drivers. All road users have a task to keep children safe, so it is also important to target drivers through training and publicity and to make parents aware of their key role in improving the safety of their children. In conclusion, parents are important role models for their children and can inculcate safe behavior through example, for instance in the use of seat belts and in their behavior as pedestrians.

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