

- **Signs:** Use your hand-signals when turning, slowing down or stopping. Follow all posted signs and obey the traffic laws.
- **U** rban Awareness: See and be seen! Be aware of your surroundings and always leave one door length of space when riding next to parked cars. Wear light or bright coloured clothing, and use your lights and reflectors in low-light and at night.
- **Protection:** It's the law to wear your helmet when riding plus it protects your brain!
- **Every e Contact:** Communication is key! Make eye contact with other road users such as drivers and cyclists, especially when crossing intersections.

Right hand side: Ride single file and as far to the right hand side of the road as practical.



Sidewalks: Walk on the sidewalks, if possible. Stay on the inside edge, and stand back from the curb when waiting to cross the street. No sidewalk? Walk facing traffic so you can see

approaching vehicles. **usic:** If you are listening to music, remove an ear piece before crossing the street or walking in less populated areas.

Adriveways, back lanes, and in parking lots.

Road Crossing: Always cross at an intersection or crosswalk if available. Make eye contact with the drivers to make sure you are seen. Be bold, extend your arm to indicate you want to cross!

eam-Up: It is safer and fun to walk to school with other family members or friends.

Stranger-aware: On no account ever go with a stranger. Practice and remember a special family password that only a trusted adult knows. With your family, identify safe places to go for help.

Best Routes to School are developed based on information we've received from parents, your school community and local government transportation departments. Routes are chosen to use the safest crossing points and to enable more people walk and cycle together.



Your School Neighbourhood

PARK AND WALK A BLOCK OR TWO

P LOOK FOR THIS LOCATION ON YOUR BEST ROUTES TO SCHOOL MAP

Families who are unable to walk all the way can still contribute to improved traffic safety and healthy school sites. Suggested park and walk locations are:

- Near Salish Park
- Eton Road
- Torrence Road

Borealis Place

Ridgemount Drive

Students WALK the last few blocks and enjoy a little extra active time outdoors.

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

Time pressure? On your way somewhere else? Parents and neighbours can team up to share the responsibilities of walking to or from school. Older students may be encouraged to walk or cycle with friends or with their younger siblings.

SHARE THE ROAD WITH RESPECT

Drivers need to show care and attention, drive without distraction and yield at marked and unmarked crosswalks. Bike, scooter and skateboard riders need to yield to pedestrians and watch for vehicles.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

Improvements are achieved through the School Travel Planning Committee - in partnership with the Town of Comox and SD71.

GET THERE BY BUS

Families can take the route together a few times before it becomes a solo trip. The Comox Valley has the best bus drivers, sit close to them and they can help.

BCTransit.com

Transit Info: 250-339-5453

For transit to school, work and play visit the web at



Why Walk or Bike to School?

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

BEING ACTIVE BUILDS HEALTHY BONES AND MINDS. Walking or biking to school is not only a great way to be healthy and keep moving but has also shown to increase alertness and grades at school.

FAMILY AND FRIEND TIME

TIME SPENT WALKING TOGETHER allows families and friends to connect without stressful distractions. It is a time to unwind, play or share stories about each other's day.

KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY. Walking and cycling is a great way to meet your neighbours. People feel safer when they know other people in their community.



CARE FOR OUR EARTH

VEHICLE EMISSIONS are individual Canadians' greatest source of green house gas emissions. Every vehicle trip replaced by walking reduces our contribution to climate change.

To find out more about safe, active trips to school visit



Comox Valley School District sd71.bc.ca





saferoutestoschool.ca





hastebc.org

Town of Come comox.ca

Best Routes to School







