

EAST GWILLIMBURY SAFETY BULLETIN

“IF YOU DRIVE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL, OUR STUDENTS’ SAFETY COULD BE IN YOUR HANDS”

Serious safety concerns created by some parents who drive their children to school continue to occur in the vicinity of numerous schools throughout the Town of East Gwillimbury.

Drivers often park or stop in “No Parking” or “No Stopping” areas, double park, make “U” turns, block driveways, park in the school bus loading zone and park facing wrong way on the street. Of particular concern are those drivers who stop in signed “No Stopping” areas, to drop off or pick up students. This action not only is contrary to the Town’s Parking By-law but it also creates a very unsafe situation as students must often walk across the street and through moving traffic to reach the school grounds.

Drivers committing these violations are not simply disobeying the law, but are placing school children at risk of injury. To ensure the safety of our students and minimize the potential for conflict with cars, specific parking regulations are provided in the vicinity of schools within the Town of East Gwillimbury.

Due to the serious nature of the concerns noted above, please be aware that Municipal Law Enforcement Officers will continue their enforcement of the parking and stopping regulations in the vicinity of schools.

To advise you where you may park when driving your child to school, the following information is provided:

No Stopping Area



- **May not** be used for the purpose of picking-up or dropping off of school children.
- Are established in a limited number of locations, where the stopping of a vehicle will create a traffic hazard, congestion or interfere with the use of a school crossing.
- **Minimum fine** is \$30.00.

No Parking Area



- May be used for the pick up or drop-off of school children, provided this action is actually occurring.
- **Do not permit** a vehicle to be parked while drivers wait for their children.
- **Minimum fine** is \$30.00.

School Crossing Zones



- You cannot stop or park within this zone for any reason including the pick-up or drop-off of students.
- Sightlines for crossing guards must be maintained. Drivers who stop within a school crossing create serious hazards for both the children and the crossing guard.

School Bus Loading Zones



- Used for the exclusive use of School Buses or vehicles under contract to Student Transportation Services of York Region.
- You cannot stop or park within this zone for any reason including the pick-up or drop-off of students.
- **Minimum fine** is \$30.00.

To Provide for the Safest Movement of Our Children Please Consider the Following:

- Walk and wheel your children to and from school whenever possible.
- If driving, park in areas where you can legally park and walk to school. This will decrease vehicle congestion around school sites.
- Follow school instructions for the Kiss and Ride (i.e. no parking, children must exit on the right with back packs with them, etc.)
- Do not use private driveways for vehicle turn around or student drop off/pickup purposes.
- Organize carpools or walk in groups with other children.
- Obey all traffic signs and slow down.
- Obey school bus flashers.
- Obey crossing guard.
- For those who are eligible, choose to ride the bus.
- Most importantly, be aware of children when you are driving in a school area.