



HELPFUL WEBSITES:

American Academy of Pediatrics
www.aap.org

American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

National Crime Prevention Council
www.mcgruff.org/Advice

USA.Gov - Government Made Easy
www.usa.gov/Topics/Back_to_School



Texas Medical Center
Police & Security Services
2450 Holcombe Blvd., Suite 1
Houston, Texas 77021
713-795-0000
24 Hour Security Assistance



**TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER
POLICE & SECURITY SERVICES**



PARENT SAFETY TIPS:

- If your child is home alone, set some house rules to be followed:
 - How long they can use the phone
 - What TV shows they may watch
 - What snacks they may have
 - Use of the computer
 - Whether they can use kitchen appliances, the stove, sharp utensils, etc.
 - Going outside to play or leaving the house
- If your child is allowed to use the computer, set rules about what they can do and if they are allowed to use the internet.
- Teach them about staying away from certain sites and to not give away any personal information.

ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL:

- Make sure your child knows their bus number. This will ease any confusion or stress for them.
- Walk the route with them before school starts. Tell them to stay away from vacant or dark areas.
- If you do not walk your child to school, have them walk with others whom you know and trust.
- Pay attention to all traffic signals and moving vehicles. Cross the street at designated crosswalk at intersections.
- Teach your child to never talk to strangers. If they are approached by a stranger, they should:
 - Yell for help
 - Run to a safe haven
 - Call the police



Photo courtesy of www.iwalktoschool.org.

SAFETY AROUND THE BUS:

- Show your child where they will be waiting for their bus. Report any safety concerns to school officials immediately.
- Keep a safe distance between you and the bus before it comes to a complete stop. Enter the bus once the driver says it is okay to do so.
- When exiting, take 10 big steps away from the bus.
- Always walk well in front of the bus if crossing the street after your stop. The driver can always see children best when they are several yards away.
- Tell your children to be extra careful in foggy, rainy, or snowing weather.

AFTER SCHOOL:

- Let your child know they should never leave school with someone they don't know.
- Teach your child to always be alert of suspicious vehicles or individuals.
- If your child is home alone, ensure they know to keep all doors and windows locked when they come in.
- If possible, have them check with a trusted neighbor or guardian that they are home.
- Establish rules with your child about answering the phone or the door. Remind them they should never let anyone know they are home alone.
- Ensure that your child knows how to use 911 in emergency situations.
- Post telephone numbers of each parent's work and cell phone, and also that of a trusted neighbor that is close by.