

Walk Your Parent to School Day Guide

Holding a Walk Your Parent to School Day is a great way to give more families an opportunity to try out their skills and safe route to school, celebrate your school champions and thank parents.

Safer Routes & Mapping

Use the Map My Journey activity on page 14 to develop students' personal route maps. A Walk Your Parent to School Day is a great opportunity for students and their families to use these safer route maps and practise their road safety skills.

Or create your own designated safer route map especially for the day. Students and their families can then join up along the way. Here are a few points to think about when looking for a safer route:

- **Crossing Points**

Use pedestrian crossings where possible or find a crossing point with good visibility up and down the street. Away from intersections where children have to look in more than two directions are often better places to cross.

- **Footpaths**

Try and keep the routes on footpaths where possible.

Once you have chosen a few safe routes, you might like to put them on a map to go home to parents. You can use Google Maps or the Cycling and Walking Journey Planner to map the route.

www.journeyplanner.org.nz

Drop-off Points

For children who live too far away, consider having a few drop-off points near to school. Church or sports ground car parks can be ideal drop-off points.

Walking Buses & Meeting Points

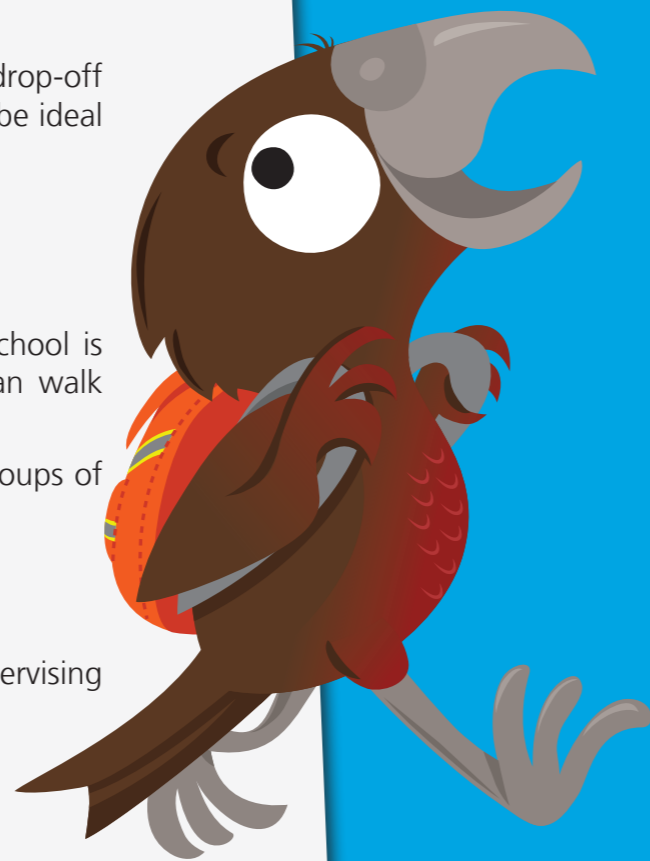
A good way to create a safer environment for walking to school is to organise meeting points along the routes so students can walk together.

You might also find parent volunteers willing to walk with groups of children to school as a Walking Bus.

Volunteer Marshalls

Volunteer marshalls can make the route to school safer by supervising meeting point and crossing points.

If possible, give them a high-vis vest to wear and free tea or coffee after the event!



Promotion

It's important to let your local community know about your event. They'll drive with special care and may even volunteer to help. Here are some ideas for communicating your event to the community:

- Put up a sign or banner outside the school gates or in other visible places in the community.
- Deliver newsletters or flyers.
- Ask the local paper along to write a story about your event.
- Ask your local radio station to include your event in the community notices.



Breakfast

Could your Breakfast Club provide breakfast for all the students and parents who walk to school?

If that's too daunting, ask your local fruit shop or supermarket to donate fruit to give away at the gate, or offer tea and coffee for parents in the staffroom.

Theme

Spunk up your event by having a theme! Students could come dressed Harry Potter style, with Fancy Feet or as Mad Hatters!

Prizes

Give away stickers or badges at the gate (Movin' March will send some out to registered schools in late February), or put the names of the walkers into a draw to win a bigger prize such as a family day out at the local swimming pools - see if you can find sponsors.

Special Guests

Invite your local Mayor, Road Safety Coordinator, Travel Planner, Police Education Officer, or other local champions!

