



PATIENCE + TIME = SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS

Sept. 3, 2021

Kelowna, BC – Central Okanagan Public Schools reminds drivers to use extra caution when the school year begins on Tuesday. To keep children safe, drivers must set aside extra time for commutes and exercise patience in school zones, at crosswalks, and in both lanes around stopped school buses.

Speed limits go back into effect on September 7, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on school days. The 30 km/hr. zones will be enforced by RCMP officers, and the fines start at \$196. Most importantly, we want everyone to arrive at school safely.

"With children excited to get to school and not always focused on their surroundings, we ask our community to take extra care around schools, crosswalks, and school buses," says Dan Glasscock, Traffic Safety Officer for Central Okanagan Public Schools. "When buses' red lights are flashing, vehicles in both lanes must stop and wait for students to board or disembark."

Please see [ICBC Statistics](#) to understand the risks to public safety.

Key reminders for families:

- Use "Kiss and Drop" lanes with patience and courtesy
- When necessary, park a short distance from the school and walk with your children to the school yard
- Park in only designated spots

Key reminders for all drivers:

- Stop signs and flashing red lights on school buses mean STOP in both traffic directions
- Slow down and watch for people at all crosswalks
- Distracted driving is as dangerous as impaired driving – put devices away
- Always exercise patience, respect, and courtesy to keep everyone safe

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For comments, please contact:

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