School parking and pick-up zones

Schools are busy areas, where there are often lots of children who do not always understand the danger of roads and vehicles. Make sure to take extra care when parking on school grounds and on the roads and

streets around the school and follow the signed parking rules at all times.

You should always check parking signs carefully near schools as they are often stricter than normal parking rules. The type of parking restriction, and the times that it applies, will be on the sign.



Parking safety tips

Some schools offer the safety of parking on school grounds. However, these parks can fill up quickly. If you choose to park on the roads or streets around your children's school:

- say goodbye to your children on the school side of the road – never get them to cross the road to their school's entrance alone
- walk across the road and meet your children after school (never call out to them from the other side)
- try to leave home early to avoid arriving at the busiest times
- follow the directions of all signs
- park a safe distance from all crossings
- always single park (double parking causes accidents and traffic jams)
- try parking a few streets away from the school and walking with your children
- organise a car pool with other parents to reduce the number of cars trying to park around your children's school.

Drop-off and pick-up areas

Drop-off and pick-up areas, where you can quickly set down and pick up your children, are common outside schools (always on the school side of the road). They create a safe environment for children and keep traffic moving.

Drop-off and pick-up areas are signed with passenger loading zone signs or 2 minute parking signs. These signs mean you have a maximum of 2 minutes to drop off or collect your children.

How drop-off and pick-up zones work

There can often be queues at drop-off and pick-up areas outside schools. When using a drop-off and pick-up area you:

- must use the area like a quick moving taxi rank
- need to move forward in the queue of vehicles to the signed area
- can get out of your vehicle to quickly help your children get in and out safely (once in the signed area), however you must not walk away from your vehicle
- are only allowed 2 minutes in the signed area (if you take any longer you can be fined) if your children are not ready to get straight into your vehicle at pick-up time, you will need to drive round the block and queue to enter the area again
- should only let your children out once you have pulled into the signed area (it is dangerous to let them out while waiting in a queue)
- should teach your children to look out for your vehicle and to get in quickly when you pull up
- must enter front-in (never reverse).

A few drop-off and pick-up areas are supervised by a volunteer traffic coordinator who:

- can help your children get into or out of your vehicle
- will make sure you only stay in the area for 2 minutes (to avoid traffic build up).

If your drop-off and pick-up area has a traffic coordinator, you should stay in your vehicle at all times (they will help your children instead).

For more information, visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au.

