

THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF WINTER BUS SAFETY

WINTER BUS SAFETY TIPS FOR STUDENTS:

DO'S

- Do dress in warm winter clothing: hats, mittens and boots.
- Do be on time at the bus stop.
- Do walk facing traffic and wear bright clothing so you are visible in times of reduced light.
- Do wait for the bus several feet further off the road in a safe place in winter weather. Be mindful that some stops may still have snow piles or drifts.
- Do use the handrail when boarding or exiting the bus to prevent slip-ping and injuring yourself on icy road surfaces or steps.
- Do keep your head and arms inside the windows when riding the bus to prevent frostbite and other injuries to your limbs and face.
- Do move away from the bus to a place where the driver can see you and you can see the driver after you get off the bus.
- Do cross 10 feet in from of the bus, but wait for the "all clear" signal from the driver before leaving the curb.
- Do keep all cell phones and articles in a backpack.

DON'TS

- Don't stand or play on snow piles at the bus stop - you could slide into the street in the path of oncoming traffic.
- Don't attempt to retrieve your books or lunchbox from around or underneath the bus until after it has cleared the unloading zone.
- Don't push or shove when getting on or off the bus.
- Don't chase after the bus or attempt to grab the rear bumper.

Bus stop safety doesn't end with the student, however. Parents are responsible for their children's safety before and after they are transported on the bus, including at the bus stop. Drivers should always be mindful of student unloading and loading zones, but should take extra precaution at or near schools and bus stops during winter months.