

# BEST ROUTES TO SCHOOL

City of Kelowna  
District of West Kelowna  
District of Lake Country  
District of Peachland  
Westbank First Nation  
Regional District of Central Okanagan



## C'MON, USE YOUR 'STREET S.M.A.R.T.S.'

### SIDEWALKS:

If there is a sidewalk - walk on it! Stay on the inside edge, and stand back from the edge when you want to cross the street - the farther you are from any moving vehicles the better. If there is no sidewalk, walk **facing traffic** so that you can see oncoming vehicles.

### MUSIC:

If you are listening to music, remove one earpiece before crossing the street or walking in an unfamiliar neighbourhood. Be safe.

### ATTENTION MATTERS:

Watch out for moving vehicles backing out of driveways, back alleys, and in parking lots.

### ROAD CROSSING:

Always cross at a road intersection or crosswalk. To cross safely at an intersection without lights, make eye contact with the drivers - in all lanes - to make sure they are stopped. Be bold, extend your arm to show them you want to cross the road.

### TEAM UP:

It's safer and more fun to walk to school with family or friends and good exercise, too.

### STRANGER AWARE:

Don't ever go anywhere with a stranger!

## "S.U.P.E.R." ROAD CYCLE SAFETY

**S**igns: Use your hand signals when turning, slowing down or stopping. Follow all posted traffic signs and obey all traffic laws. When you are on the road, you ARE a vehicle.

**U**rban awareness: See and been seen! Be aware of your surroundings and always leave one door length of space when riding next to parked cars because you never know when a door will swing open in front of you. Wear light or bright coloured clothing and use your bike lights and reflectors and reflective clothing in low-light situations and at night.

**P**rotection: Wear your helmet when riding - it's a law to protect your brain.

**E**ye Contact: Communication is key! Making eye contact with other road users such as drivers and pedestrians will increase safety for everyone.

**R**ight hand side: Ride single file and as far to the right hand side of the road as possible. Use the bike lanes, if they are available.

## Park and Walk

Families who are unable to walk all the way can still contribute to improved traffic safety and healthy schools. Park at your school's designated area or, park legally on a street away from the school. Walk the last few blocks with your children, allowing them to enjoy a little extra active time outdoors.

**George Pringle has a Park and Walk Station at Westbank Centre Spray Park located at 2569 May Street.**

## Extra Safety Tips

### IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

TRANSIT can be fun. Parents and children can take the route together a few times before the kids go solo. Ask the bus driver if you have questions.

### SAFETY IN NUMBERS

Team up with another parent or neighbour to share the responsibilities of walking to and from school. If students are older, encourage them to walk with friends or older siblings.

### AWARENESS AND INDEPENDENCE

Teach your children how to stay safe by identifying friendly neighbours, friends or safe public places. Warn them about high traffic areas or corners that might hide hazards. Exploring and learning about your community and city at a young age are lessons that will last a lifetime.

## Stranger Aware!

- When you are out with your family, identify safe places at which you can ask for help. It might be a neighbour or a friend's house or maybe a safe place you can go.
- If your family uses a safety password, practice and remember that special word!



### Driver Aware:

DRIVE LAWFULLY, SAFELY AND WITHOUT DISTRACTION. Your behaviour as a driver is a part of the role model you serve for your children.

U-TURNS ARE ILLEGAL in a school zone. They are dangerous, too, causing many blind spots in an area that may be filled with young walkers and cyclists.

DON'T IDLE YOUR VEHICLE during pick up and drop off times. Idling contributes to poor air quality in the school zone, which can negatively impact young lungs.

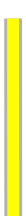










## Care for our earth

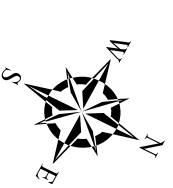
**VEHICLE EMISSIONS ARE THE LARGEST CAUSE OF POOR AIR QUALITY IN BC** and are individual Canadians' greatest source of greenhouse gas emissions. Every vehicle trip replaced by walking or biking reduces our overall contribution to climate change.

**For more information about safe, active trips visit: [www.smartTRIPS.ca](http://www.smartTRIPS.ca), [www.hastebc.org](http://www.hastebc.org), [www.carpool.ca](http://www.carpool.ca), and [www.saferoutestoschool.ca](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca)**

The Best Routes to School Map is part of the Clean Air and Safe Routes 4 Schools Program initiative led by the **Sustainable Transportation Partnership of the Central Okanagan - STPCO**. The District of West Kelowna, a partner in STPCO, is now working on a comprehensive pedestrian and biking Master Plan prioritizing connectivity to schools which will update the attached map in the future.

# George Pringle Elementary Best Routes to School

-  Best Route (Sidewalk)
-  Best Route (Multi-use Trail)
-  Best Route (Shared Roadway)
-  Roadway
-  Highway 97
-  Marked Crosswalk
-  Traffic Signal
-  George Pringle Elementary School
-  Kiss and Ride (for long-distance families)
-  Park and Walk (Spray Park)
-  Parks



0 100 200 300 400 500 Meters

About 8 Minutes Walking  
3 minutes Cycling

