



Safe and Smart for Back to School

Whether it's your kids' first year in school or they're ready to go back, safety is always a top priority. Schools often have a number of safety precautions in place to keep kids safe to and from school, but you can also build on those and develop your own strategies.

To and from school

The routes your child takes to school are very important. Whether they walk or take the bus, making sure they know where they are and supposed to be at all times can help them stay safe. Teach them the right way to walk home from school and the bus stop, including staying on sidewalks, how to cross the street, obeying crossing guards, and following traffic lights and signs.

If your kids are old enough to ride their bike to school, be sure to equip them with the appropriate safety gear. And teach them the rules of the roads and sidewalks, so they can seamlessly coexist with cars and pedestrians.

If they're taking the bus, remind your children to keep an eye on the bus route, teach them their bus number, and put a plan in place if they accidentally get on the wrong bus. And if they ever encounter strangers or bullies, you can give them a plan of action to get out of those situations, such as alerting an adult. Give your kids a password to use with people they don't know. That'll help them figure out when it's ok to go with a stranger and when it isn't.

Staying in touch

You can also keep your kids safer by knowing the people your child will come into contact with every day. Get to know their teachers, school administrators, friends, and friends' parents—even crossing guards—so they know your child by name and know they can contact you if necessary.

Whether you're at work or at home, it's good for your kids to know how to contact you. Make sure they know personal information like your phone number, address, and where you work. That way, if they get lost and someone is trying to help them, they can get in touch with you. You can even include your contact info inside their backpack just in case they forget.

Once you've prepared your kids to be safe and smart, be sure to properly protect some of the other important things in life your family relies on every day. Get your free, no-obligation quote on Liberty Mutual home and auto insurance by calling 888-951-2146 or by visiting libertymutual.com/waynestate.