

Dear Parent / Carer

With the Easter holidays fast approaching, and better weather and lighter evenings on the horizon, now is a great time for you to begin supporting your child on their journey to becoming a safer, independent pedestrian.

The good news is that Oxfordshire County Council's child pedestrian Road Safety scheme, Footsteps, has been improved with the addition of a series of short videos that can be used alongside the step-by-step guide. By following the guide and videos, you can support your child to become a safer, more confident pedestrian.

The **Footsteps** programme is simple to follow as it can be used in normal everyday situations such as walking to school or to the local shops. Rather than *telling* your child what to do, where to cross, you are encouraged to *ask* lots of open questions to make your child think about the decisions they are making. Making these decisions safely, while in the company of a supporting adult, will mean they will be better prepared for dealing with roads and traffic once they begin going out on their own.

Learning to cope with traffic is a practical skill, which can't be learnt in the classroom. As parents / carers, you are the best people to help your child develop this knowledge as you spend the most time out and about with them.

It is never too early to start talking to your child about road safety as, having a good understanding of road safety skills, could one day save their life.

Please follow the link to the **Footsteps** page on our website [Footsteps | Oxfordshire County Council](#) where you can download the step-by-step guide and access the video clips to start giving your child the skills and knowledge they will need to stay safer on our roads.

Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service Road Safety Team
Oxfordshire County Council

