

## School crossings

School crossings, also known as kea crossings, provide a safe place for children to cross the road. They generally only operate before and after school.

When school crossings are operating, a fluorescent orange Children sign will be displayed, along with a School Patrol Stop sign, which swings out into the road.

When the School Patrol Stop sign is out, vehicles coming from both directions must stop and stay stopped until all signs have been pulled in.



## What children would like drivers to know

- Children are not little adults, so don't expect them to act as adults do.
- Children, especially those under the age of nine, may not have the skills and abilities needed to be safe in traffic. Be very careful when driving near them.
- Young children have narrow vision. This means they may not see vehicles as easily as adults do.
- Children have trouble judging the speed of moving vehicles. They may let a slow vehicle pass and try to cross in front of a fast one.
- Children often don't understand that it takes time for a vehicle to stop.
- Children may have difficulty working out where sounds are coming from.
- Because children are small, they often can't see over bushes and parked vehicles. This also means they can't be seen easily by drivers.
- Children tend to think about one thing at a time and ignore other things happening around them.
- Because children are always on the move, they may have trouble stopping at a kerb and could dart out into traffic.
- Children can freeze when they find themselves in danger, instead of taking quick action as an adult might.

Keep a lookout for children at all times. Take special care when driving during 8–9am and 3–4pm, when children are traveling to and from school.



### Constable Paul Stanko

School Community Officer | School Community Services | New Zealand Police

P 09 213 7734 | M 0211 91 5512 | E [paul.stanko@police.govt.nz](mailto:paul.stanko@police.govt.nz)

Henderson Station, 7 Buscomb Avenue, Henderson, PO Box 21 162, Henderson, Auckland 0610, [www.police.govt.nz](http://www.police.govt.nz)

### Safer Communities Together

