

It's that time  
of year again!



**KERRY H. COLLINS & ASSOCIATES**

*The time has come to send your children back to school. To ensure your child's safety to and from school, please read the safety tips we have provided below. We wish your child a safe and successful school year. If you have any further questions, please contact us.*

1. Plan a walking route to school or the bus stop. Choose the most direct way with the fewest street crossings and, if possible, with intersections that have crossing guards.

2. Walk the route with your child beforehand. Tell him or her to stay away from parks, vacant lots, fields, and other places where there aren't many people around.

3. Teach your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers. Remember, a stranger is anyone you or your children don't know well or don't trust.

4. Be sure your child walks to and from school with a sibling, friend, or neighbor.

5. If your child rides a scooter to school, make sure she wears sturdy shoes, a helmet, knee pads, and elbow pads. Children under

age 12 should not ride motorized scooters, according to recent recommendations from the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

6. Teach children to arrive at the bus stop early, stay out of the street, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before approaching the street, watch for cars, and avoid the driver's blind spot.

7. Remind your children to stay seated at all times and keep their heads and arms inside the bus while riding. When exiting the bus, children should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, exit from the front using the handrail to avoid falls, and cross the street at least 10 feet (or 10 giant steps) in front of the bus.

8. Tell your child not to bend down in front of the bus to tie shoes or pick up objects, as the driver may not see him or her before starting to move.

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## **KERRY H. COLLINS & ASSOCIATES**

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