

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE GREEN CROSS CODE



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It is very important that the Green Cross Code isn't taught by rote. The 'best practice' way to teach it as follows:

Wherever possible teach the children to cross the road in the 'real environment'. Choose a quiet road with good visibility, risk assess beforehand, ensure plenty of adult supervision and the correct child: adult ratios, and all adults and children should wear hi-vis jackets. Younger children should always be holding hands with an adult.

Approach crossing the road as a 'problem' of how to get safely to the other side – a problem to be solved by the children themselves (with adult help).

- Where is a safe place? (Either a formal crossing or choose a place where visibility is good, no corners or junctions and preferably without parked cars)
- Where should they stand? (On the pavement, near the edge but behind the kerb)
- How should they look and what are they looking for? (All around for traffic – vehicles, including bicycles and other quiet vehicles)
- What are they listening for? (Traffic – vehicles – they may hear them before seeing them)
- When should they cross? (When there is a safe gap in the traffic and they are certain that there is plenty of time)
- What should they keep doing whilst crossing? Why? (Keep looking and listening in case there is any traffic they didn't see, or it appears suddenly from a driveway, or is approaching fast)
- How should they cross? (By walking straight across the road – they must not run in case they trip or fall)

Once they have 'solved the problem' of getting to the other side THEN tell them there is a code that they can learn to help them remember what to do! The GREEN CROSS CODE!