



### When to allow your child to walk on their own around local roads

✓ Children under eight should always be accompanied by and hold hands with an adult around roads, particularly when crossing.

✓ When your child reaches the age of eight, you should consider whether to allow them to walk independently. It can be a tough decision as you will need to consider their development and weigh up the benefits of them being active and healthy with traffic danger in your area.

✓ When you decide to let your child walk independently, remind them about the importance of crossing safely using the Green Cross Code, paying attention to the road, and help them to plan the safest possible route (along quiet, slow roads with pavements or traffic-free paths) to school, the park or their friends' houses.

✓ If you are concerned about traffic danger in your area, such as due to fast traffic or a lack of pavements, you could also [start a campaign](#) for a 20mph limit or pavements and crossings, or whatever your community needs, using [Brake's advice](#).

✓ You can also encourage your child's school to organise practical pedestrian training, which is usually offered by local authority road safety teams.

