

Walking to school...



... a secure experience

Verkehrs-Club
der Schweiz



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«Waiting – looking – listening - walking.
I walk to school by myself because I am
already big now.»

Secure

Practice makes perfect. This rule also applies in road traffic. Children who learn to cope with road traffic's challenges early in their lives, gain safety and security. The way to school is an ideal opportunity to train step by step how to behave and react correctly in road traffic – holding the hands of their parents and being together with their friends.

Security in Road Traffic

Children should learn early to react and behave in the correct way in varying road traffic situations, since the older they get, the more often they will also have to walk distances on their own. Taking part in road traffic starts on the parents' hands. Difficult situations need to be practised together with the parents. Later on, children need an opportunity to improve their knowledge and skills in road traffic. The way to school is an especially good opportunity to do this, as parents can regularly control their children's progress there. Furthermore, the repetition of standard situations helps children to remember certain patterns of correct behaviour.

Going to school by taxi

- bars children from learning about dangers in road traffic,
- limits their opportunities to train correct behaviour and reactions,
- endangers other children by risky manoeuvres in the area around the school building.



«I walk to school because I meet other children on my way there and experience many interesting things.»

Exciting

Children want to grow up, not just physically but also mentally. On their way to school, they gain essential experience. They cultivate friendship with others, work out conflicts; they discover both their environment and a part of their freedom; they experience and practice both independence and personal responsibility. In short: The way to school is an experience itself. It brings children further than “just” to school.

An Experience

The way to school is a scope for development where children are not constantly supervised by their parents or teachers. Therefore, it provides an opportunity to undisturbedly gain experience which is important for the personal development. Children socialise and explore their environment together with other children, discover interesting things in nature – in short: They discover the world in their own initiative. This experience increases their self-confidence and self-esteem.

Going to school by taxi

- exclude children from adventures and experiences they would normally go through with their friends,
- takes away part of their freedom,
- limits them in their personal development.



«I walk to school because I like moving and being outdoors.»

Healthy

It is very healthy to get exercise. Children taking regular exercise are more powerful, and it is easier for them to concentrate. Exercise and fresh air prevent children from harm and health problems, and they are very important for the physical development. So, the way to school provides an ideal daily training module.

Health

Children should get as much exercise in fresh air as possible since this kind of exercise supports their physical, motor and mental development, increases well-being and prevents overweight. Children walking to school integrate part of the exercise and activities in fresh air they need in their daily life. They arrive at school in a more balanced way, it is easier for them to concentrate and they are more powerful.

Going to school by taxi

- leads to certain behaviour patterns,
- limits children's opportunities to get exercise,
- can support overweight.