

# Footsteps

Helping children cope with traffic as a pedestrian.



# Who we are

- Road Safety Education Team.
- Fire and Rescue Oxfordshire County Council.
- Our job is to reduce road casualties through education and training.
- Parents have been using Footsteps to teach children pedestrian road safety for over 20 years.

# Why is it important to teach young children to cope with traffic?

- Road incidents are the major cause of death in school aged children.
- When children are small, adults generally make all the road safety decisions without involving the children.
- Parents expect children to be independent by secondary school but have they had enough experience to be able to cope?
- Road casualty statistics peak after 10 years old.

# Why Footsteps?

- We teach our children to brush their teeth and tie their shoes by practise.
- Where do children learn to swim?
- Colouring sheets or DVDs aren't enough.

# How Footsteps works

- Footsteps involves asking lots of questions.
- If you ask...
- If you tell your child ...
- It's not just about crossing roads. Think about car parks, walking by the road, driveways...
- It's about giving children responsibility to make their own decisions.

# How does Footsteps work?

- Do Footsteps little and often whenever possible.
- Gradual process of building up confidence and knowledge. It is not an instant fix and takes a long time before they can be independent.

# Subjects we're going to cover:

- Stop
- Look
- Listen
- Car parks, pavements and driveways
- What to look out for by the roadside
- How to cross the road
- Clothing
- Weather

Any questions?



# Roadside session

- Parents are responsible for their own children at the roadside.