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Information letter for KG students and parents

Road Safety Instruction in Kindergarten

Dear Parents, Grandparents, Caregivers, and Supporters of Safer Kids,

We, the traffic education team of the Horgen Police, regularly visit your child's kindergarten to help them learn how to navigate the streets safely.

It's important to us that you are informed ahead of time about the topics we will cover. This allows you to support your child in alignment with our teaching and reinforce the messages at home. By working together, we can ensure your child not only understands the lessons but retains them for the long term, helping them stay safe in traffic.

Here are the main themes examined during the kindergarten lessons:

- i. Before crossing the road, the child **must** always **first stop** at the edge of the road directly behind (not on) the curb (we call this **the "STOP STONE" (STOP STEIN in German)**).
- ii. The child may only cross the road when an approaching vehicle has come to a complete stop ("**wheels stop" or "Rad steht"**) or when no vehicle is approaching.
- iii. The child **must never run across the pedestrian crosswalk**. This behavior applies in principle to the route to and from kindergarten.
- iv. The child should always use the "**children's sidewalk" or "Kindertrottoir"** (see page 2 for more details).

Thank you for your support in promoting road safety for children.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

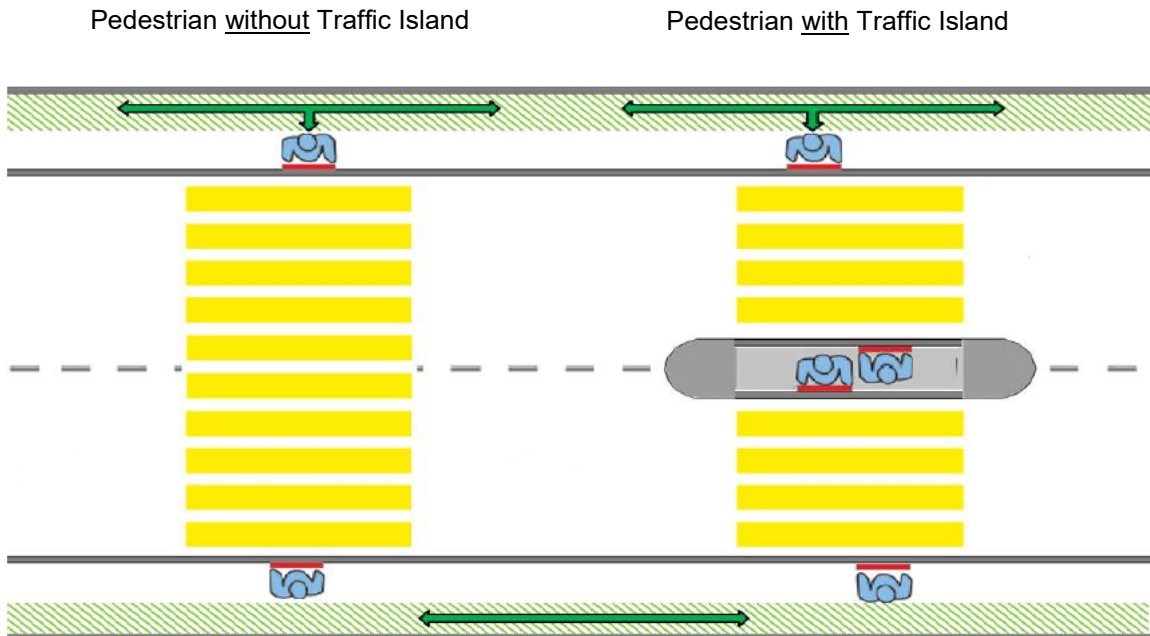
Kind regards,
Your Horgen Police

Traffic and Safety Instruction Team



Wheels stop - child walks // Rad steht – Kind geht.

So that everything continues as it should.



The sidewalk curb to the street becomes a STOP STONE “STOP STEIN”, regardless of whether the street has a pedestrian crossing at the crossing location or not: The child must stop/halt directly behind the curb (see picture above, marked in red). The child must look in both directions and listen to the traffic at the same time.

Wheels stop, child walks (Rad steht, Kind geht): Children of this age cannot judge speed or distance. As the driver, avoid making any gestures towards the child standing at the side of the road, as this can lead to an unfortunate misunderstanding. Perhaps you just wanted to wipe the annoying wasp out of the car. However, the child could also take this as an invitation to cross the road. Come to a complete stop, no rolling stops! Children should concentrate solely on the wheels of the approaching vehicle: **wheels stopped, child walks**. Wheels move = pay attention! Stay where you are!

The sidewalk is part of the road and is not a playground. This is why we always teach children to walk normally on the sidewalk, as the risk of falling is much greater when children are in “race mode”.

We refer to the half of the sidewalk that is further away from the roadway as the “**children's sidewalk**” or “**Kinder-Trottoir**”. This is where your child should walk with or without adult supervision (picture, shaded green).

Wheels stop - child walks // Rad steht – Kind geht.

So that everything continues as it should.

