

Safe and considerate scooting

Scooting is a fun, healthy and active way to get around



A guide for parents/carers and young children

Children love to scoot but are not always aware of basic safety rules.

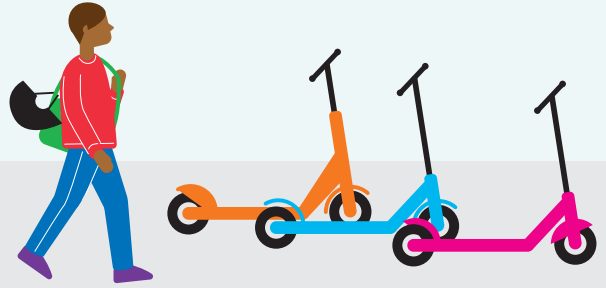
We hope that these guidelines will help you remind your child to scoot safely and considerately.

Remind your child to be aware

- Driveways are easy to miss so make sure that your child knows what they are. Encourage them to stop, look out and listen for vehicles and remind them that when the white light at the rear of cars is on, this means the vehicle is reversing.
- Ask your child to look out for loose debris or gravel as they can cause the scooter to stop suddenly and your child to be thrown to the ground. Also make them aware of fixed hazards such as trees, lamp posts, roots and bumps.
- Remind your child to take care in wet weather when scooters are more likely to skid.
- When crossing the road, ask your child to stop at the kerb and get off the scooter. Remind them to wait for you. Look, listen and think and when safe, ask them to push their scooter.

Safety check

- Scooters vary depending on the brand and style.
- Check that all nuts, bolts, levers and clips are in the right position and tight and that the wheels are running smoothly.
- Check that the brakes are working.



Make sure that your child is wearing appropriate clothing

- We do recommend a helmet, knee and elbow pads, especially if the child is very young and inexperienced.
- Children should wear bright clothing during the day and reflective materials in the dark, this will help them to be seen.
- Make sure that your child is not wearing loose laces or trailing scarves, which can get caught in the wheels, or hats or hoods which can obscure their view or prevent them from hearing.



Teach your child to be considerate

Children can easily forget about other people on the pavement and behave in inappropriate or unsafe ways.

They need to be reminded of the following:

- Be aware of other people using the pavement - children should slow down or stop and push if it is too crowded.
- Do not expect pedestrians to move out of the way for children on scooters.
- Remember to say "please" and "thank you" if someone is letting you pass.

For more information

Contact the Active Travel Team at Southwark Council on **020 7525 5544** or email highways@southwark.gov.uk