



School Safety Patrols

Patrol signals – what do they mean?



At Ease Position

The “At Ease” position is used whenever a patroller is inactive, meaning no pedestrians are waiting or crossing.

What it looks like: School Safety Patroller will be standing with arms behind back, holding flag. Alternate position is flag in front of body, holding with two hands.

What it means....

To motorists: Proceed through intersection as per normal

To pedestrians: N/A

To School Safety Patrols: I am paying attention at my post although I am not getting ready to or crossing anyone

Holding Position

The “Holding” position is used whenever a patroller is waiting to cross pedestrians.

What it looks like: School Safety Patroller will be standing with arms stretched out to the sides, slightly bent down. Flag will be fully extended on right side.

What it means....

To motorists: Proceed through intersection as per normal, be alert that children are waiting to cross. **IMPORTANT:** Do NOT wave to patrols to allow them to open the intersection. Their job is to find the breaks in traffic, not have you create them.

To pedestrians: Stay behind the patrol and wait for them to give you the clear to proceed.

To School Safety Patrols: I acknowledge pedestrians, whether at my side or the opposite side of the street, would like cross the intersection and I am looking for a break in traffic to open up the intersection.





Ready Position

The “Ready” position is used just before a patroller opens up the intersection to pedestrians.

What it looks like: School Safety Patroller will have right hand extended with flag out and will be punching in front with the left arm.

What it means....

To motorists: Stop where you are.

To pedestrians: Get ready to cross

To School Safety Patrols: I have deemed the intersection clear, I have found a break in traffic, and I will be opening up the intersection to pedestrians very shortly.

Crossing Position

The “Crossing” position is used when the patroller has opened up the intersection and is crossing pedestrians.

What it looks like: School Safety Patroller will have stepped on to the roadway with the right arm, with flag in hand, extended completely. Left arm is waving downward or upward, motioning the pedestrians to cross.

What it means....

To motorists: Stay where you are. Do not proceed until School Safety Patrol has returned to the ‘At Ease’ position after all pedestrians have made their way safely to the other sidewalk.

To pedestrians: Cross the intersection in an orderly fashion.

To School Safety Patrols: The intersection is open, pedestrians are crossing. I am waiting until pedestrians completely reach the other sidewalk before I return to my At Ease position.

