

Halloween is a popular event for children, who dress up in costumes and go door-to-door 'trick or treating' on 31 October.

The following tips help parents and caregivers ensure their children have a safe and enjoyable Halloween.

TIPS FOR TRICK-OR-TREATERS

- Be respectful of other members of the community; not everyone celebrates Halloween.
- Only approach houses that are decorated or have the front light on, and avoid those with a sign saying 'No trick or treat here'.
- Have a trusted, responsible person come with you while trick or treating.
- The Know some basic safety rules in case you accidentally get separated from others during the event.
- Walk on the footpath at all times and don't run from house to house.
- Obey traffic rules, watch out for cars and use proper road crossings where available.
- After saying 'trick or treat', stay at the front door and don't enter the person's house, even if invited inside.

TIPS FOR HOUSEHOLDERS

- Only offer wrapped treats, making sure they are sealed and safe.
- If you do not want to participate or have run out of treats, turn your front light off or stick up a poster saying "No trick or treat here".
- Instead of trick or treating, you could host a Halloween party at home so that children can still celebrate but under supervision.
- → Join with neighbouring families to create a safe house arrangement, where children are given a list of houses to door knock at, and these are the only houses they go to.
- Check social media for any Halloween posts which give locations in your suburb.







THINGS TO REMEMBER

Keep in mind that all children are different. Please be accepting, patient and kind when receiving trick or treaters.

- Children who grab multiple pieces of candy may have poor fine motor skills.
- Children who don't say 'trick or treat' or 'thank you' might be nonverbal.
- Children who look disappointed when they see your bowl might have an allergy.
- Children who aren't wearing costumes might have a sensory processing disorder or autism.
- People who look too old to be trick or treating may be developmentally delayed.



