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Pupils and drivers are being asked to take extra care as youngsters return to school this week.

In 2017, 18 children aged 16 and under were killed or seriously injured and 84 slightly injured on Peterborough roads.

Road accidents are the biggest cause of accidental death amongst 12 to 16 year olds.

As schools return after the summer break we would advise drivers to take care when travelling, to keep speeds down around schools and where there are children travelling.

We would also like to advise students and children to stay aware of their surroundings when walking or cycling and to be aware of the dangers of using mobile phones while out and about.

All of the city's primary and secondary schools will be offered road safety education to highlight the importance of keeping themselves safe as a pedestrian a cyclist and also as a car passenger.

Drivers are being reminded that it is against the law not to stop for a school crossing patroller. Courts can issue fines of up to £1,000 along with adding points to a driving license and also imposing bans on drivers that fail to stop.

Jenny Wright, PES officer for Peterborough City Council said: "We would like to take the opportunity to remind young people to take responsibility for themselves when walking to school and remember the dangers of using mobile phones, listening to music and becoming distracted by friends.

"We would also remind parents that young children should always be accompanied whilst near the roads."