Over the past several years there has been an alarming increase in the number of violent crimes against children. Children have been the victims of abduction, sexual assault and other violent crimes across the United States.

The Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office and the Anderson Township Board of Trustees are implementing Project L.O.O.K. in an effort to keep our children out of harms way. Project L.O.O.K. stands for “Local Officers Observing Kids”. This project will be a collaborative effort between the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office, the Forest Hills School District and concerned parents and citizens of Anderson Township.
**PROGRAM OUTLINE**

When available, the Community Resource Officers and Patrol Officers will begin their patrol prior to the start of the school day. Patrol Officers will engage in preventive patrol along school bus routes, bus stop waiting areas, and surrounding areas of schools in the assigned sector.

Community Resource Officers and Patrol Officers will investigate any unusual or suspicious person, vehicle, or situation that they perceive across or any suspicious activity that has been reported to them.

The Community Resource Officers will work cooperatively with the Forest Hills Transportation Office to communicate with the bus drivers in reference to any suspicious activity that may be observed while picking up and dropping off children during the beginning and ending of each school day. Any suspicious activity reported will be immediately investigated.

The Community Resource Officers will check the safety of children that are walking alone or waiting by themselves for the bus. As we are maximizing our efforts in making Anderson Township a safer place for our children, we encourage parents and concerned citizens to act as L.O.O.K.-outs and report anything they see suspicious or unusual by calling 9-1-1 if an emergency, or the non-emergency number if it is not. The non-emergency number is 513-825-2280.

### COVER THE BASICS

**CHECK** your neighborhood for areas that threaten children’s safety, like brush in wooded areas, overgrown shrubbery, abandoned buildings, bad lighting, vacant lots littered with debris, no sidewalks, or bike paths next to busy streets.

**TEACH** children that no one, not even someone they know, has the right to touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. Tell them they have the right to say “No” to an adult in this situation.

**REHEARSE** with children their full name, address, and phone number (including area code) and how to make emergency phone calls from home and public phones.

**TELL** children never to accept gifts or rides from someone they don’t know well.

**ENCOURAGE** your children to walk and play with friends, not alone, and to stay in well-lighted, open areas where others can see them.

**DO NOT WRITE** your child’s name or address, etc. on the outside of their clothes, backpacks, or school items.

**TAKE** your children to walk confidently and make lots of noise. Tell them about answering the phone and accidentally letting a stranger know they are alone. Kids can always say their parents are busy and take a message.

**MAKE SURE** your kids can reach you by telephone at work. Post your work number, along with numbers for a neighbor, the police and fire departments, and the poison control center near all your home phones.

**TELL** your children never to open the door to a stranger when they are alone in the house or apartment.

**TEACH** your children that no one, that is, someone they don’t know well. A stranger can be a man or woman, well-dressed or shabby, kind or threatening, pretty or ugly. If a stranger tries to follow them or grab them, they should run away, scream, and make lots of noise. Tell them to run to the nearest place where there are people and to shout “This person is trying to hurt me!” or “Stay away from me,” instead of a simple “Help.”

**MAKE SURE** your children are following the safest route to school and friends’ houses, one that avoids danger spots like alleys, new construction, and wooded areas. Test walk it together.

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