

21st April 2011

Choose right, buckle right – child restraint workshop 5th May

It is estimated that every year in Australia, 28 children aged 10 years and under are killed and 2773 are injured in car crashes.

Some of these fatalities and injuries could be prevented or reduced if all children occupy the right restraint for their size and age, and if the restraint is installed and used correctly.

Parents or carers should choose a restraint that provides the highest available level of protection and make sure it is used correctly every time.

As a father and someone who cares about children in the Shoalhaven, Mayor Paul Green is very aware of the importance of having an age appropriate and correctly fitted child restraint in your vehicle.

Clr Green says “Choose the right restraint to suit your child’s height, weight and age. Don’t take any chances with your restraint; it could save your child’s life”

It has been over a year since new laws came into effect regarding the use of restraints and there may be still some confusion.

In summary, babies must remain in a rear facing restraint until they are 6 months old, children aged between 6 months and 4 years must remain in a baby seat and 4 to 7 year olds must be restrained in a baby seat or booster.

Four important key points to remember when considering child restraints are:

- Choose correctly
- Fit correctly
- Use correctly and
- Check correctly

Shoalhaven City Council runs free child restraint workshops that give participants all the information they need to feel confident in choosing the correct restraint for their children.

To participate in the next free Child Restraint Workshop on the 5th May 2011 contact Shoalhaven City's Council's Road Safety Officer, Kathy Wiseham on (02) 44293484, or email wisehamk@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

Further information can also be found at www.rta.nsw.gov.au

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