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For immediate release

Keeping Kids Safe over the Christmas Holidays

As families begin to relax and celebrate the Christmas holidays, children become at greater risk of injury. During this time, many families will be on the road heading to holiday destinations, travelling to and from gatherings, spending time at the beach or in the pool, and trying out new gifts. Due to the excitement and busy nature of Christmas, it is important to be aware of the injury risks to children during this time of year.

“The good news is that the majority of injuries that we see happening to children across WA are preventable. There is a lot that we can do as parents and carers to watch out for our kids and protect them from injury during this busy Christmas period” said Kidsafe WA Chief Executive Officer, Scott Phillips.

To reduce the risk of injury to children, Kidsafe WA recommends the following safety tips to keep children safe this Christmas:

Road Safety

- Ensure all children are using a correctly fitted child car restraint for their age and size.
- Take care when travelling on busy roads during the holiday period.
- Make sure children are always supervised near driveways, roads and footpaths.

Water Safety

- Always actively supervise children within arm’s reach around any depth of water.
- Never leave young children in the care of older children around water.
- Check that pool fences and gates are in good working order and are never propped open.

Toy Safety

- If buying children skateboards, bicycles, or scooters, remember to also provide appropriate safety equipment such as helmets, wrist guards, and knee and elbow guards.
- Choose toys that are suitable for children’s age and stage of development.
- Be aware of button batteries in toys, novelty items or decorations, and restrict access to these.

By following the above safety tips and ensuring there is always a responsible adult supervising children at gatherings, the risk of childhood injuries can be reduced.

“Together we can protect children from injury, and ensure that we all enjoy a safe and happy Christmas with our families.” Said Mr Phillips.

For more information on how to keep your children safe visit: www.kidsafewa.com.au.

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