

## Points to Note (for Parents) on Safe Use of Amusement Rides

### **Know your child's capabilities**

Know your child's capabilities and limitations and think carefully whether a particular ride is appropriate for your child. Watch the ride with your child for a while before boarding. Don't put your child on the ride that he or she is afraid of. When a child get scared, he or she might attempt to exit before it stops, putting him or her in a potential dangerous situation.

### **Read warning signs aloud to your child**

Read the warning signs aloud to yourself and your child before getting on a ride. The signs are normally posted at the entrance of the queuing area.

### **Obey height and/or age restrictions**

Obey minimum height/age restrictions. Don't argue with ride operator because your child is too short to ride. Restrictions are based on the size and position of the ride's restraint system. For your child's safety, it is better not to ride in event of a borderline case.

### **Teach safety precautions to your child**

Teach safety precautions to your child, like keeping hands and feet inside the ride at all times, staying seated, holding on to safety bars tightly with both hands and obeying the ride operator's instructions. Lap bars and handholds are part of the safety equipment. Teach your child how to use them.

### **Don't get off until operator tells to do so**

Explain to your child that rides sometimes stop temporarily, but riders must never get off until the operator tells them to do so.

### **Guide your child to think about the consequences**

Ask some questions to let your child to think about the consequences of dangerous behavior. For examples, what could happen if you unhooked your seatbelt on a roller coaster? What could happen if you extend your hands and legs out of the vehicle? What could happen if you try to jump out before the ride stops?

### **Tell your child what to do if he or she gets frightened**

Talk to your child about what to do if your child gets frightened while the ride is moving. Tell her not to get out of the ride. Explain that amusement rides might seem scary, but they are not dangerous as long as riders hold on tight, stay seated, and keep their hands and feet inside.

### **Check whether the lap bar is fit for your child**

Some lap bars may fit certain range of body size of passengers. You should check every time the tightened lap bar is fit for your child or ask the operator to check it if in doubt.

### **Pay attention when the ride slows to a stop**

Pay special attention as the ride slows to a stop. Children who are in a rush to be the first one off, or in a hurry to get to the next ride, may try to exit while the ride is still moving.

### **Watch all extremities**

Don't put your child on a ride he has outgrown. Maximum height and weight limits are just as important as minimum limits. If you cannot count on your child to stay seated with hands and feet inside, don't let him or her ride.

### **More...**

If your children are going to ride on their own, point out the operator and loading/unloading locations to them before entering the gate. If you are accompanying with them to ride, especially on a rotating ride, load the children to the inside position of the bench seating, if possible.

### **Enquiry**

For enquiry, please contact the General Legislation Sub-division by telephone at 2808 3867, by fax to 2577 4901.

*Version 1.0 (31.3.2005)*