

**To: Principals of all Schools/Colleges
(Please bring to the attention of the Chair of Board of Governors)**

13 December 2016

Dear Principal

'BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN' DURING THE WINTER MONTHS

Thank you for your ongoing support in promoting the safety of pupils travelling to and from schools and colleges. At this time of year, pupils need to be particularly vigilant. Limited visibility during dark mornings and evenings, along with heavy traffic and the excitement surrounding the Christmas season, can increase the likelihood of serious, and sometimes fatal, accidents.

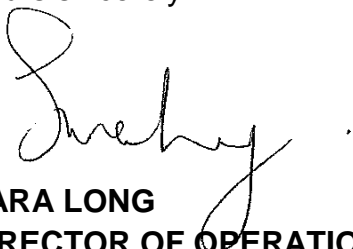
In the run up to Christmas, I am writing to ask you to take the opportunity at school assemblies to remind pupils of Road Safety NI's message '**be bright, be seen**' by drivers.

Please encourage all young people to wear reflective clothing and high visibility items, especially during the dark mornings and evenings, when travelling between home, bus stops and school. DE Circular [2011/04](#) provides further useful guidance.

All EA vehicles used to transport pupils are fitted with seatbelts and as always, pupils *must* wear them at all times when travelling. Additional information for parents/guardians of pupils who are transported to and from school by the EA Home to School Transport Service is available on the EA website in our '[Safe School Transport](#)' leaflets.

On behalf of the Education Authority, I wish you, your Boards of Governors, staff and pupils a safe and happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely



SARA LONG
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND ESTATES