



Cascade Christian Schools District Office

Dear CCS Family,

Halloween is a special time for families to dress up and interact with the community. Considering the combination of shorter daylight hours and increased pedestrian traffic, here are some Halloween safety tips to make the holiday a safe and happy one.

Costume Safety

To help ensure adults and children have a safe holiday, [fda.gov](https://www.fda.gov) has compiled a list of safety tips titled [Halloween Safety Tips: Costumes, Candy, and Colored Contact Lenses](#).

Before Halloween arrives, be sure to choose a costume that won't cause safety hazards. Here are some good tips when choosing a costume:

1. All costumes, including wigs and accessories, should be fire-resistant.
2. If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags, or give them glow sticks.
3. Choose nontoxic Halloween makeup instead of masks, which can obscure vision; always test makeup in a small area first to see if any irritation develops.
4. Remove all makeup before children go to bed to prevent skin and eye irritation.

When They're on the Prowl

Here's a scary statistic: Children are **more than twice as likely** to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year. Lack of visibility because of low lighting at night also plays a factor in these incidents.

Keep these tips in mind when your children are out on Halloween night:

- A responsible adult should accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds.
- If your older children are going without an adult, plan and review a route acceptable to you.
- Agree on a specific time children should return home.
- Teach your children never to enter a stranger's home or car.
- Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and to stick with their friends, never going off alone.
- Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home, and take care to avoid any food allergies.

Safety Tips for Motorists

The National Safety Council (NSC) offers these additional safety tips for parents—and anyone who plans to be on the road during trick-or-treat hours:

- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians, and curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.

- At twilight and later in the evening, watch out for children wearing dark clothing.
- Discourage new, inexperienced drivers from driving on Halloween.

Should Parents Worry about Rainbow Fentanyl in Halloween Candy?

The DEA warns about brightly colored fentanyl disguised as candy. However, there has not been any official warning issued about Halloween candy specifically, and the chances of your child getting fentanyl-laced candy are unlikely. Nevertheless, it is encouraged that you should play it safe when inspecting your child's candy. If you believe you have identified laced candy, dial 911 immediately.

What Is Fentanyl?

- Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid drug approved by the FDA for prescription use in pain relief and as an anesthetic.
- Fentanyl is 80 to 100 times stronger than morphine.
- A potentially lethal dose of fentanyl is the size of 2 grains of salt.
- According to the DEA, 6 out of 10 pills contain a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl.

Important Facts:

- People cannot smell or taste fentanyl, and a person cannot tell if a pill is fake just by looking at it.
- People should not take any pill that did not come directly from a doctor or pharmacist and should never use illegal pills when alone.
- Pills purchased online or from social media are not safe, no matter what someone says.
- People should know how to recognize an opioid overdose in case someone around them takes an illegal pill.

Signs of an Opioid Overdose:

- Pinpoint pupils
- Slow, shallow, or no breathing
- Gurgling or snoring
- Difficult to wake or can't wake
- Extreme drowsiness
- Cold, clammy skin
- Gray/blue skin, fingernails, or lips

Call 911 immediately if you think someone is overdosing.

How Do I Talk to My Children About This?

Awareness is key, and we need to educate our kids right now. Preparation is important to having a successful conversation with your kids. To help you with this challenging conversation, we'd like to give you a link to the free [Natural High Fentanyl Toolkit](#).

Talking with your children about substance use will save lives. Greater awareness can help spread knowledge to your children and their friends and peers.

For more information about fentanyl and substance abuse, here are some helpful resources: [Fentanyl: Raising Awareness and Protecting Your Kids \(naturalhigh.org\)](#)

[Fentanyl Facts \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov)

[High Risk Substance Use in Youth | Adolescent and School Health | CDC](#)

[One Pill Can Kill | DEA.gov](https://www.dea.gov)

Thank you for partnering with us to provide a safe and secure environment for our students, faculty, and staff.

In His service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jake Petersen

Director of Safety & Security

Cascade Christian Schools