Car Seat Safety

We would like to offer some tips of safe car seat use. Thanks for working with us to make sure our little ones stay safe!

* **Buy the right car seat-** Your baby needs to ride in a rear-facing car seat as long as possible, until 2 or more years. Always check the label on the seat for height and weight requirements.
* **Make sure the harness is snug-** Your child's harness should fit securely and snugly. You can test to make sure it's tight enough by the "pinch test"- try and gather the harness strap and pinch it at the shoulder. If you are able to pinch it, the strap is too loose. The chest clasp should rest at the baby's armpit level.
* **Do not buckle in your child if they are wearing extra layers-** Winter coats, sleep sacks, or baggy clothing to not allow the harness to fit tightly against the child. "Car coats" are fine, as they are designed to fit with the harness.
* **Car seats expire-** Regularly check the car seat label and stop use if the seat is expired. Furthermore, do not pass on a used car seat to someone else if it is expired, and always check the labe on a used car seat if it is gifted to you.

**Correctly used child safety seats can reduce the risk of death by as much as 71 percent.**