



## Hot Cars

### Never leave children alone in vehicles

Now that the weather is starting to heat up, Kidsafe NSW is urging parents and carers to remember that cars are not to be used as substitute babysitters.

Despite the amount of information available to say how dangerous it is parents and carers are continuing to leave children unattended in vehicles.

On a typical Australian summer day, the temperature inside a parked car can be 30 – 40 degrees hotter than the outside temperature. That means on a 30 degree day, the temperature inside the car could be as high as 70 degrees and 75% of the temperature increase occurs within five minutes of closing the car.

It is alarming to continually hear about children being left alone in motor vehicles. Even if you only need to run a short errand, take the children with you.

Don't think that by putting the windows down 5cm will help either because with an outside temperature of 30 degrees, it will only cause a slight decrease in the temperature inside the car.

Heat stress, dehydration, heat stroke and death are all possible outcomes of leaving a child unattended in a motor vehicle.

In NSW it is against the law to leave your child unattended in a motor vehicle.

**For further details or more information, contact Kidsafe NSW on 02 9845 0890.**