If you own a firearm, its safe storage is one of your most important responsibilities. You must always secure your firearm and ammunition so they are not accessible to children or other unauthorized persons.

**TIPS FOR PARENTS**

Even if you don’t have a gun in your home, your child may someday come into contact with a gun or another child who has access to one. Just like any other dangerous situation, a simple conversation with your child may prevent an injury or worse.

Set some “rules” about guns for your children, such as:

- Never touch a gun
- Immediately leave any area where you see a gun
- Find an adult and tell them if you see or find a gun
- If someone threatens you at school, or talks about bringing guns to school, **SPEAK UP**! Tell an adult like a teacher or parent.

Remind children they should not worry about getting another child into trouble. They may be saving their life or the life of another by alerting someone.

**BASIC FIREARMS SAFETY RULES**

- **Understand how your firearm operates:**
  - Read the instruction manual of any firearm you own
  - Familiarize yourself with the features of any firearm you intend to use

- **Always safely store and secure your firearm:**
  - The Irvine Police Business Desk can provide firearm safety locks to Irvine residents free of charge
  - Secure your firearm and ammunition separately
  - Make sure children do not have access to the gun safe/cabinet keys

- **Always treat every firearm as if it were loaded**

- **Always keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction**

- **Never place your finger inside the trigger guard unless you intend to fire**

- **Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting**

**FIREARM TURN-IN PROGRAM**

The Irvine Police Department will accept any firearms under our voluntary firearm turn-in program. Please contact our Business Desk during regular business hours at 949-724-7000 for details.