

Lets Ride Kids

Industry
Mobility Sector

Status
Live

My Role
UI/UX Designer

Year
2023



About The Product (Let's Ride Kids)

Let's Ride Kids is a mobile application designed to provide a safe, convenient, and reliable carpooling solution for school-going children. Created by two working parents in the USA, the app addresses a common pain point faced by many families—managing school drop-offs and pick-ups amid busy work schedules. The product connects families in the same neighborhood whose children attend the same school, enabling them to share rides through a trusted and secure platform. Whether it's booking a ride for a few specific days, an entire month, or the full academic year, Let's Ride Kids gives parents full control over scheduling and assigning verified riders for their children's daily commute.

Challenges

1. Ensuring Child Safety and Parental Trust

One of the biggest challenges was designing a system that parents could fully trust with their children's safety. The app needed to include secure rider verification, clear identification, and real-time tracking features—all without compromising the user experience.

3. Building Community Without Sacrificing Privacy

While the app aimed to connect nearby families for carpooling, maintaining user privacy was non-negotiable. Balancing community-driven features with strict privacy settings required thoughtful UI/UX decisions and back-end logic.

2. Flexible Yet Simple Scheduling

Parents needed the flexibility to book rides for specific days, weeks, or entire academic periods. Designing a calendar-based scheduling system that was both powerful and easy to use was a critical usability challenge.

4. Coordinating Ride Assignments Across Multiple Kids and Riders

Many families have more than one child or may use different riders on different days. Creating a clear and manageable way to assign and track multiple children and riders within a single parent profile was a complex interaction challenge.

User Persona

Name: Emily Carter
Age: 36
Occupation: Senior Marketing Manager
Location: Austin, Texas
Education: Bachelor's Degree
Family: Married, mother of two (ages 6 and 8)
Tech Proficiency: Comfortable with mobile apps and online scheduling tools
Devices Use: iPhone, Apple Watch, MacBook



Background

Emily is a full-time working professional who starts her workday early and often attends virtual meetings throughout the day. Her husband travels frequently for work, leaving her to handle most of the daily school logistics. With two kids attending the same elementary school, mornings are often hectic, and coordinating drop-offs and pick-ups is a daily challenge.

Goals

- Ensure her children get to school and back home safely.
- Find a reliable carpooling solution that fits her unpredictable work schedule.
- Connect with trusted parents or riders in her neighborhood.
- Reduce morning stress and improve daily routine efficiency.

Behavior

- Checks and plans her children's schedule weekly on Sunday evenings.
- Prefers apps that are quick, intuitive, and require minimal daily setup.
- Prioritizes safety and transparency when it comes to her kids.
- Willing to pay for services that save her time and reduce daily stress.
- Actively participates in school groups or parent communities online for coordination.

Frustrations

- Relying on friends or neighbors who might cancel last minute.
- Apps that are too complicated or not designed for working parents.
- Lack of visibility on where her children are during school commutes.
- Limited carpooling options in her area.

Need The Platform for?

Safe & Verified Transportation: Emily needs a platform that ensures her children are only driven by trusted, background-checked riders.

Flexible Scheduling Options: She wants the ability to book rides for specific days, weeks, or the entire academic year—without having to re-enter details repeatedly.

Real-Time Notifications: Push alerts for pick-ups, drop-offs, delays, or cancellations give her peace of mind throughout the day.

Community-Based Connections: Emily values the option to connect with nearby parents to build a network of familiar, trusted families.

User-Friendly Interface: The app must be quick to navigate, even during busy mornings, with minimal steps to complete a booking.

Propositions Offered

1. Safe & Trusted Carpooling

All riders are verified through strict background checks, ensuring child safety is the top priority. Parents can confidently assign riders knowing their children are in safe hands.

3. Easy Rider Assignment

Parents can assign a specific, trusted rider to their child for a consistent and stress-free experience. This helps build familiarity and comfort for the child as well.

5. Community Connection

The app allows nearby families with kids going to the same school to connect and coordinate carpooling, promoting a sense of local community and shared responsibility.

2. Flexible Ride Scheduling

Parents can book rides for selected days, full months, or even the entire academic year—based on their child's school calendar and their own availability.

4. Real-Time Updates & Notifications

Receive live updates about your child's journey, including pick-up and drop-off confirmations, route tracking, and delay alerts.

6. Seamless, Intuitive Interface

A clean, user-friendly design ensures busy parents can manage rides quickly and efficiently—no need to navigate complex menus or forms.

The Approach

To create a user-focused and trustworthy solution, I followed a streamlined UX process—starting with user research to understand the daily challenges of working parents managing school commutes. I then defined key personas, mapped user journeys, and designed intuitive wireframes focused on simplicity and safety. After developing a clean, friendly UI, I built a prototype and conducted usability testing to validate the flow, leading to iterative refinements that enhanced trust, ease of use, and overall functionality.

The Outcomes

1. Enhanced User Confidence

The final design emphasized safety features such as verified rider profiles and emergency contact access, significantly increasing user trust and confidence in the platform.

2. Streamlined Ride Scheduling

Parents were able to easily schedule and manage rides for various time frames—daily, monthly, or yearly—through a clean, intuitive interface.

3. Community-Driven Connectivity

The app successfully fostered a sense of local community by connecting families within neighborhoods, making carpooling more collaborative and reliable.

The Product

