



21 October 2022

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Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you separately from our parent newsletter because I would like to share some important safeguarding information. You may be aware from speaking with your child that we have recently had a series of fire alarms and evacuations. I feel it is necessary to share with you that unfortunately our alarms have been triggered by known students, most recently today, and that this has not been an isolated incident.

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our staff, students and our school community for their support and patience during these incidents of poor behaviour by a small number of students within our school. I know that our students and parents will have been frustrated by the interruption to learning. Rest assured that our team and I have been following up these incidents with relevant agencies, including the Police, and that wherever possible we will be pursuing formal charges in addition to the sanctions which we are able to impose.

I fully appreciate that not all students will understand what has taken place and indeed there will be some young people for whom these episodes have an emotional impact. Like you, our priority is to have a site which is safe and secure and we are continually reviewing our processes. In response to recent events we initiated a practice lockdown today and will be following this with guided lessons in tutor time after half term to support students and staff in our whole school response.

Along with Mr Lowdell, and on behalf of our wider staff, we are determined that this will not detract from the fantastic half term that the vast majority of our young people and staff have had and I would like to wish you all a restful and safe break.

Helen Jones

Deputy Head Teacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead