



Bellerive FCJ Catholic College

A Catholic Voluntary Academy

8th January 2019

CITY WIDE KNIFE CRIME INITIATIVE

Dear parent/carer,

Please find attached a letter from Joe Anderson (Mayor of Liverpool) and Steve Reddy (Director of Children's Services) regarding the role that our schools are playing in a city wide initiative to tackle knife crime.

In it you will read that part of the initiative is the delivery of assemblies to as many young people in schools as possible. As a school we are fully supportive of this initiative. On Wednesday 16th January 2019 every student in the school will attend an assembly on the theme of knife crime prevention, delivered by trained representatives of the City Council. On at least one of the days in the week following the assemblies we are hopeful that Merseyside Police will set up a "knife arch" at one of the school's main entrances as pupils arrive to school.

I would like to stress that the assemblies and deployment of the knife arch are not because we believe that our pupils are bringing knives into school, but because we are committed to educating all of our young people to be as safe as they possibly can be.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Taylor
Deputy Headteacher

Headteacher
Mrs N Howlett, MSc, NPQH

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October 2018

Knife Crime Prevention

We are writing to parents/carers to update you and ask for your continued support in tackling the issues young people face around knife crime. This follows recent presentations to Headteachers' and discussion of these issues at the various Headteachers' association meetings.

You may be aware that knife crime has risen across the country. In Liverpool, in common with other big cities and towns, we have also had an increase including the tragic murders of a number of local young men in the past year- Sam Cook, Brandon Regan and Daniel Gee Jamieson.

We have joined with organisations throughout the city to tackle the issues from both an enforcement and prevention perspective. Initiatives have included developing specific knife crime programmes for offenders, issuing knife wands to city centre bars, carrying out test purchases with retailers and supporting education sessions in youth and community settings as well as using the #nomoreknives tag on social media to raise awareness of the impact of knife crime.

We have been working with all schools across the city, through their respective representative bodies, to develop a strategic approach to knife crime and ask for their support. Part of the approach will involve schools delivering information to young people about the consequences of knife crime through presentations in assemblies or participation in programmes provided by external providers. Schools police officers will also have access to mobile knife arches for use in secondary schools on days when these awareness raising initiatives are taking place.

We appreciate that some people may be concerned at their child receiving information about knife crime. This does not mean that there is an issue with knife crime in any particular school in the city. Rather it is part of a collective approach where we are all pulling together to tackle the issues, keep our young people safe and prevent further incidents. This is clearly about educating children to the dangers of carrying knives and will compliment the curriculum work that schools are already undertaking and developing further. Parents should be reassured that any work with children and young people will be in keeping with their age and development. In addition, we have provided schools with a 'frequently asked questions' document to help schools shape any queries they may have from parents or carers about the work they are doing.



Your continued support in this work is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely



Steve Reddy
Director of Children's Services



Joe Anderson
Mayor of Liverpool

