

25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

### **SAFE TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL**

There have been a number of muggings in Sutton Coldfield in the last week, which have been very upsetting to the whole community and to the individuals concerned.

We have encouraged the relevant parents to report this matter to the police. We have also been in touch with our MP, Andrew Mitchell, to raise the need for increased police presence in Sutton Coldfield Town Centre.

We thought as a group of schools that it would be helpful to reiterate some important safety advice at this point. Please help us in communicating these general safety messages to your child:

- Please travel with other pupils where possible.
- Look confident. Walk with a purpose and be aware of your surroundings.
- Be aware of your surroundings, take care of friends and family members and keep valuables such as phones or headphones out of public view whenever possible.
- Keep to busy, well-lit areas which are more likely to be covered by CCTV.
- Please keep to pedestrian areas which are busier and more public.
- Please go straight home when your school day finishes.
- If a pupil is in a position outside of school where they need help, they should talk to an adult they trust.

Crimes can be reported directly to the police via 101; alternatively, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org). If a crime is taking place or a life is in danger, call 999 immediately.

There is further advice on keeping your mobile phone safe at the following website: <https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/your-options/mobile-phone-theft-and-loss/#prevention>

Thank you for your support in communicating these messages to your family,

Sutton Coldfield Secondary Headteachers