

Wanstead High School

Education with Character

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Headteacher: Miss E Hillman

24th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I will write to you in more detail tomorrow with some key information and details of the start of next half-term. In the meantime, I wanted to alert you to another attempted robbery in Wanstead Park last night. We do not believe the young alleged perpetrators involved attend our school and are liaising with the police to see what actions they intend to take as a result of the reports from last night and also to keep the community and our young people safe, as this is not the first time this has happened. We know there are a group of young people who use the central line (as it has no CCTV) to execute and plan robberies in areas they perceive to be more affluent. Again, these are not young people from our school.

Whilst we can do a limited amount, such as patrolling the local area and asking the police to up their presence, we can only do so much. Pupils have regular advice and assemblies about how to keep safe and we ask that you ensure you know where your child is after they have left school and arrange a safe passage home as much as you can. If your child chooses to spend time in the park, this may put them at risk. This may mean collecting your child, arranging pupils to walk in groups and, of course, not to have phones or other items on display. Pupils should seek help from an adult or go into shops if they feel scared.

Whilst this is a sad indictment of the times we live in, I am unable to control much of this and we all have a part to play in ensuring pupils get home safe. We continue to liaise with the police, offer pupils support and do all we can to keep everyone safe. We will update you as and when we have more information.

Please do contact us if you have any further information or your child is a victim of unsafe behaviour and we would urge that you contact the police too, as this will help them to gain intelligence and hopefully take the action needed to keep the local streets safer.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Hillman
Headteacher