

22nd March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I trust this letter finds you well.

I am writing about the recent troubling spate of violence in Alum Rock, including a shooting incident in Naseby Road last week, of which you are no doubt already aware.

We understand this may be a source of worry for families, and that you may have some concerns about your child's safety, and I wanted to let you know how we are responding to the issues in school.

We have a positive ongoing relationship with the Police, and I am pleased that PC Fletcher, our Community Liaison Officer, will be in school on Friday 24th March 2023 to speak to students – to both reassure them, and share important advice about how to stay safe.

We cover topics such as gangs and weapons in our personal development time, to educate our students and provide them with the information they need to keep themselves safe and to reduce their risk of harm. Our value of respect is embedded in all aspects of school life.

We also work closely with the Birmingham SAFE Team – a programme that brings together local Police and other key specialists to support young people who may be at risk of violence. Through this work, we know that some young people within the local area may incorrectly believe they need to carry a knife or other weapon for their own safety. This is wrong and is of course a criminal offence. If we find any student in possession of a weapon, we will contact the police immediately. While these instances are extremely rare, we will conduct searches and engage with other preventative measures in school when required to deter this kind of behaviour. Your support in talking to your child about this is appreciated as well as reminding students of the need to return home as quickly as possible each school day.

If they are worried, there are a number of people students can speak to in confidence: their form tutor, year group co-ordinator, our designated safeguarding leads, or indeed any member of staff. You can also be in touch with any one of us to raise any issues or concerns. I would also like to remind parents that our student welfare email address as detailed on our website is monitored frequently if you wish to use this service. The email address is as follows: student-welfare@corerockwood.academy

May I thank you in advance for your ongoing support.

Kind regards.



David Cooke
Head of School