

REF: PLE/RRN
02/10/2023

Barnford Hill Park/Defford Drive/Tudor Road & Social Media

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please see below an urgent message from the Academy with regard to incidences at Barnford Hill Park, Defford Drive and Tudor Road.

Barnford Hill Park/Defford Drive/Tudor Road

You may have noticed heightened police presence in and around the Academy over the course of this half term. In light of this, and recent events that occurred in the summer term, we would like to urge you to encourage your child to make their way home immediately at the end of the Academy day and avoid loitering around the above areas.

Whilst we will continue to ensure that there are sufficient numbers of staff present outside the gates, both at the beginning and at the end of the day, we cannot sustain that presence for hours after the Academy day has concluded. **It is therefore the responsibility of all parents or carers** to ensure that your child returns home safely at the end of the Academy day.

We are in constant liaison with West Midlands Police and neighbouring schools/academies and we will continue to share any sort of information that we receive that could implicate any of our students. Furthermore, we are grateful for our colleagues at Sport 4 Life who send chaperones (in orange high vis) to support in and around the Academy premises at the end of each day. Unfortunately, this support is not exhaustive and there continues to be instances (on a daily basis) of students remaining at the above locations rather than making their way home.

Social Media

The Academy has growing concerns about students' use of social media outside of the Academy. On a continual basis, extra-curricular issues relating to social media are being reported to the Academy; though we work to support our students in every way, the simple fact is that an inordinately large proportion of time that is spent dealing with issues links to social media use **outside** of the Academy.

Life to the full in pursuit of what is good, right and true.



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Chief Executive: Mr Daniel Parkes BA (Hons), MA | Head of School: Mr Peter Lee BA (Hons), M.Ed, PGCE, NPQH, NPQEL

Q3 Academy Langley has always accepted responsibility for the safety and education of your children when they are on the Academy site. However, **it is your responsibility**, as a parent or carer, to ensure that your child is behaving in a responsible manner outside of the Academy. Too often, parents and carers expect the Academy to investigate, sanction and monitor events that have taken place during evenings and weekends whilst the child is under their care. This is not the first time that correspondence of this nature has had to be communicated, as several parents and carers will know.

The most severe method to deal with young people and issues with social media is simply to remove access, as the child may not have shown themselves capable of behaving in a kind and responsible manner.

At Q3 Academy Langley, our ambition is to support your child in achieving highly aspirational outcomes – sadly, unmonitored use of social media is having a significantly detrimental impact on our capacity to achieve these aims. We will always support parents and carers in any way we can, and would be happy to meet and support if that is required. However, your child's use of social media outside of the Academy is **your responsibility**, as a parent or carer; we hope that you understand the importance of this message, and your critical role in keeping your child (and others) safe.

If you require any assistance or have any further queries, please contact the Academy where your child's PLD will be happy to speak with you.

Yours Faithfully,



Mr. Peter Lee
Headteacher

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