



19th September 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

In recent months the press have reported on a number of knife related incidents around the country and this has been mirrored by a small number of incidents in West Yorkshire and Kirklees. We share the concerns of parents and carers in regards to the risk faced by young people who choose to carry knives and the risk to those around them.

Headteachers in every school in Kirklees are united in trying to educate young people of the dangers and consequences of knife crime, and we are working with West Yorkshire Police and Kirklees Youth Offending Service to make sure that schools are a safe place for young people.

It is in the interest of every young person's safety to know that the moment they choose to pick up a knife they are putting themselves at risk of injury or arrest. To achieve this, we need your support by reinforcing the lessons we are delivering as part of our lessons called 'No Knives, Better Lives' which are our contribution to a Kirklees community safety campaign called Knife Free Kirklees.

We will be co-ordinating a media awareness campaign in the coming weeks and this will be supported by assemblies and inputs in PSHCE lessons. We are adopting a partnership approach with West Yorkshire Police and the Youth Offending Service so that we can deal robustly with young people bringing knives into schools; recognising that young people are learning all of the time that our response will be proportionate, swift and in the interests of the wider school population.



The safety of young people in schools is an emotive topic and we would encourage parents and carers to engage with the school on this issue; your children will achieve more when they feel safe, and this requires a united effort from families, schools and the authorities.

We trust you will be supportive of our approach and look forward to discussing this with you in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Mr Dean Watkin - Headteacher