

Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

Federation Headteacher: Miss Z J Linington

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Dear Parents/Carers,

The safety and security of all pupils at Edward Peake Middle School is of the utmost importance and therefore we endeavour to keep everyone informed of any incidents.

Yesterday, an incident took place at approximately 4.00pm at the park facing the school in which a man is reported to have approached a group of pupils. The group returned to school as a place of safety and reported the incident to school staff. The school reacted quickly to ensure pupils received support and each one was collected by parents/carers. The incident was reported to the police and they visited the school site at approximately 5.30pm to discuss the incident with the leadership team.

The police are currently investigating this incident and will be in contact with the school if any further action is required. In light of this incident, we remind all pupils to take care when travelling to and from school and to report anything suspicious to parents, the school, and the Police – call 101 to report an incident to Police (only use 999 in an emergency).

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers that the park area does not belong to the school and is not monitored by school staff at the start or end of the school day.

Here are some simple strategies to help your child stay safe. Please discuss these with your child and ask your child to:

- Try and travel with friends.
- Walk on the right-hand side of the pavement so that he or she always faces oncoming traffic.
- Wherever possible, leave space between themselves and the road.
- Stay in areas that are well lit.
- Stay in view – avoid going into areas that are hidden from view (such as bushes or woodlands) and plan to avoid such locations.
- Be alert - earphones and headphones can reduce awareness considerably.
- If a passing vehicle stops nearby, never get too close
- Do not hesitate to run from a situation in which they feel at risk. Provide the same advice to younger siblings and watch out for them wherever possible.
- Always report suspicious behaviours to parents, the school and the Police, noting number plates of vehicles and or clothing and distinguishing features of individuals.

There is a range of information and support here-

<http://www.childline.org.uk>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

<https://www.kidsmartz.org/StrangerDanger>

If you have any queries regarding this matter, do not hesitate to contact the school office or discuss your concerns with your child's form tutor.

Thank you for your continued support of Edward Peake Middle School.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Z. Linington'.

Miss Z J Linington
Federation Headteacher

