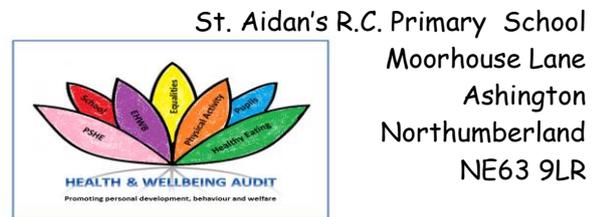


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22 September 2017

Dear Parent/carer,

### Safeguarding Issues

I am writing to clarify the events of Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September, as it has come to my attention that an inaccurate version has been posted on a face book forum page. Could I please urge parent/carers in future to check with me the exact version of events before posting inaccurate information.

Yesterday two children from the Northumberland Church of England Academy, had been observed by a member of staff to be running away from an adult towards the main entrance of our school. The member of staff thought that they were in danger and therefore allowed them access to the main school through the main reception entrance. However it was then established that the adult was a parent in pursuit as they were both truanting from school.

The children were safely apprehended and escorted from the premises. I can assure you that throughout the incident your children were safe and closely supervised by staff as always at all times.

I have fully briefed all staff and reminded them of ensuring that any visitor must remain in the waiting area of main reception and only be granted further access once identity and purpose of visit has been verified.

It is really important, that as we move forward parent/carers raise any issues and concerns directly with me, as until it is brought to my attention I am unable to address them. Our regular parent/carer forum is scheduled for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 2.15pm and in the past has been poorly attended. Please come along so that your concerns can be raised and we can look at how they can be addressed.

The face book forum page also has posts about issues relating to drop off/collection times and parking. The need for a traffic management system was raised with Northumberland County Council early into the primary project and we will continue to do our utmost to address this. As the entire project to date has cost almost £773,000, it is highly unlikely that we will be able to access further funding; however it is essential that we work together to look at how we can best resolve these issues.

Thank you for your patience and continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Samantha Leslie  
Head teacher