

HAPP

HUNTS AREA PRIMARY PARTNERSHIP

CRITICAL INCIDENTS

Dear Parents/Carers,

As Headteachers serving in local schools we are writing to you regarding our procedures whenever there is a critical incident. The Local Authority describe a 'critical incident' as any incident beyond the everyday experience of school life and this may include:

- Arson/fire at school
- Pupil or staff death
- Abduction/disappearance
- Floods
- Unexpected closure
- Threats received by the school via email or telephone

While it is hoped that none of these incidents will occur it is important that schools should be prepared for any scenario. Therefore we are proactive and develop Critical Incident Plans to cover as many eventualities as possible. These identify emergency plans for evacuation/invacuation and any relevant training for staff.


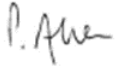
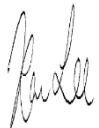
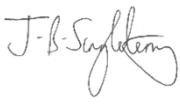

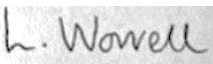


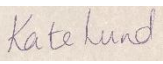
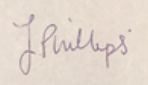
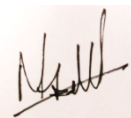





It remains true that parents and carers can continue to trust our schools to keep all children safe. Schools are some of the safest and most secure public spaces with well-rehearsed safety plans in place to deal with a range of emergencies. Relevant staff are trained and the well-being and safety of both children and staff is our top priority.

Each school will deal with any situation as they see best and depending upon their own circumstances. The action taken may be different from the response in other schools. We will always take advice from the Local Authority and Police as well as liaising with each other and our Governors. Parents may be interested to know that all such threats are assessed carefully by the Police, not just locally but by a national assessment centre, and we will always report such threats to Cambridgeshire Police and follow their advice and apply it to our local context.

Each incident is different and needs to be assessed and then dealt with as appropriate. Recent events show that we take hoaxes very seriously indeed. In all our schools more often than not the children are completely unaware of any incident because we deal with these situations so quickly and discreetly. This enables the life of the school to continue as normal whilst any incident is dealt with. Even though details are often now shared online we request that threats are not discussed with children at home as recent experience has shown that having children too scared to come to school is very challenging. We will aim to provide as much information as quickly as we can and communicate as clearly as possible. We always review and assess our responses afterwards to see what we can learn.

We appreciate your support in keeping our schools safe.

Yours sincerely,

 Mr S Davis Hartford Junior School	 Mr P Allen Brampton Village Primary School	 Mrs R Lee Hartford Infant School	 Mr J Singletery Stukeley Meadows Primary	 Mrs C Matthews Abbots Ripton CE Primary
 Mrs L Worrell Spaldwick Primary School	 Mr D Jones Thongsley Fields Primary and Nursery School	 Mrs G Young Houghton Primary School	 Mrs K Lund St John's CE Primary School	 Mrs J Phillips Wyton Primary School
 Mr M Farrell Brington CE Primary	 Miss R Moor St Anne's CE Primary	 Mrs C Wood Head of School Godmanchester Bridge Academy	 Miss T Fielden Head of School Godmanchester Community Academy	
	 Mrs C Kent Huntingdon Nursery	 Mrs A Anderson Buckden CE Primary		