



# ST JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Goodson Road Willesden London NW10 9LS  
Telephone 020 8965 5651 Fax 020 8961 9022  
E-mail: [admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjo.brent.sch.uk)

Executive Headmistress: Mrs D Titus  
Associate Head of School: Ms B Kirby

Dear Parents and Guardians

Monday 5 June 2017

## Terror-related Events

Further to the recent events in Manchester and London, it is understandable that there may be a high level of anxiety. I would like to reassure all of our children and parents that their safety and well-being is always the school's main priority.

As a school we are constantly striving to ensure that we provide a safe and secure environment for our children. When the children leave the school for an educational visit, we have rigorous procedures in place to assess any risk that may be present.

Security across the country is heightened at times like this. We constantly liaise with venues in advance to understand their own security arrangements for school groups. We have recently decided that any visits to central London will be by coach from door-to-door and not by public transport.

We continually review the security of the school premises and ask for your understanding with our safeguarding protocols. We will also continue to seek guidance from the Government and the Local Authority in relation to all safeguarding matters.

Families will be following the news on TV and other media but it is important that children do not see their parents and other family members preoccupied with ongoing news as they will pick up on the anxieties in those people they look towards to keep them safe.

Parents must also remain vigilant about children's use of social media; the adults must remain in charge of what their children are exposed to and manage conversations about these events at a level that is appropriate for young people. You may wish to look at balance in the conversations so there is honesty about the actions some radicalised people are involved in whilst also talking about the good things being done to keep us safe.

The BBC Newsround programme has produced good and accessible information for pupils of primary age for your consideration at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/13865002>. It may help provide some practical advice when discussing with your child their concerns and feelings towards these incidents.

One key aspect we would advise parents and guardians is to reassure and reaffirm with the children the importance of our faith and the teachings of Christ; we are called to love each other in line with God's commandments.

As a faith community we have prayed in remembrance of all those who lost their lives. We prayed in support of all those working so hard in response to this tragedy: the police and security forces, hospital staff, neighbours and friends. We will also be observing the national one minute silence at 11.00am on Tuesday 6 June.

Please see the reverse of this letter for some guidance to support parents and children.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs D Titus**  
Executive Headmistress



## **SAFEGUARDING AND SECURITY GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS**

- If your child goes home alone, please ensure you know where they are going and that you call them at home by the time you expected them to have arrived
- If your child will not be attending school for any reason, please notify the school in advance for planned absences and by 9.00am on every day of unexpected absence e.g. illness
- Be aware of what your child is accessing and engaging with on Social Media
- DO NOT let visitors on to the school premises when you are entering/leaving the school
- Please respect the entry protocols of the school which have been in place for some time; we need to know who is on the premises and the reason for their visit
- If you have any concerns for your child's safeguarding or security, please speak to someone; the school has a Designated Lead Person for Safeguarding who can support parents seeking advice
- If you have an immediate urgent concern, please telephone the police

***May God, in his mercy, strengthen and sustain us and keep us firmly united.***