

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know that the Academy will be carrying out a practice lockdown drill during the week commencing March 23rd.

Please be assured that this is a routine safety exercise and part of our ongoing commitment to keeping all students, staff and visitors safe while on site.

Just as we regularly practise fire evacuations, lockdown drills ensure that everyone in the Academy knows exactly what to do in the very unlikely event that we ever need to secure the building. These drills are now a normal part of school safety procedures and are designed to be calm, brief and fully supported by staff.

Although it is extremely rare for any school to need a full lockdown, examples of situations might include:

- An intruder on the Academy site
- A major fire near the Academy
- A dangerous dog or other animal roaming close to the school

Before the practice takes place, every student will attend an assembly designed to ensure that the students feel informed and any unnecessary worry is reduced. Staff will carefully and clearly explain:

- What a lockdown drill is
- Why we practise it
- What students will need to do
- How staff will support and reassure them throughout

Please be reassured that:

- This is only a practice and is not in response to any concern or incident
- Staff will guide students gently and reassure them at every stage
- The drill will be short, calm, and carried out in a supportive way

If you have any questions or would like to discuss our lockdown procedures further, please contact your child's Year Group Coordinator or Head of Year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe and well-prepared environment for all students.

With best wishes,



J Henshaw