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Headteacher: Mr N K Willingham BA (Hons), NPQH

6th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to update you on our school's safety protocols. In alignment with updated government guidance and the introduction of **Martyn's Law** (the Terrorism Protection of Premises Act 2025), all schools are now required to maintain formal, practiced procedures for "lockdown" and "invacuation."

These national standards are designed to ensure that staff and students are prepared to respond calmly and effectively to any high-level security incident. While the legislation does not reach full enforcement until 2027, we have chosen to implement and practice these procedures now to ensure our school community is fully prepared and compliant.

What this means for our students:

- **Preparation:** Today students have been introduced to the procedure. We will conduct a scheduled, whole-school lockdown practice in the coming weeks.
- **Support:** We understand that the idea of a "lockdown" may cause some students to feel nervous. Our staff are trained to manage these drills with a calm, matter-of-fact approach. We will be reinforcing the message that these drills are a routine safety precaution, similar to a fire drill and that the incidents they prepare for are extremely rare.
- **Routine:** Once the initial training is complete, we will conduct lockdown drills at regular intervals to ensure the procedure becomes a familiar part of school life.

We trialled our lockdown procedures last year so older students will already have experienced this drill, some students join us with experience of a security lockdown practice from their primary school. However, we appreciate this will be a new experience for some year 7 students. We will ensure the process is age-appropriate and focused on safety and care.

Our primary goal is the safety and well-being of every child in our care. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these procedures further, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr N. K. Willingham
Headteacher

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