

Ref: TOB/DBA/SafeguardingCommunity

1st March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware there have been a number of incidents in the news recently which have involved young people across Birmingham who have become victims or perpetrators of knife crime. Sadly these events have resulted in the loss of life for young people within our city. Whilst these incidents have not represented a specific threat or danger to our students, it would be remiss of us not to alert you to the danger of these incidents and advise young people on how to keep themselves safe.

There was an incident in Birmingham City Centre on Tuesday 26th February 2019 where a 16 year old boy was stabbed inside a shop. This is an extremely worrying state of affairs for young people in our city and this incident happened on a route which many of our young people take in order to come to school or make their way home. Central Academy enjoy a productive relationship with the Police who regularly visit school to talk with students on issues connected to crime prevention and personal safety and we will continue to work closely with West Midlands Police to ensure that our students remain safe and vigilant on their journey to and from school.

In light of this and recent incidents across the city of Birmingham, we will continue to talk to students about the importance of keeping themselves safe.

We will advise, and would encourage you to re-iterate, that students should make their way straight home from school after dismissal, travel home with a friend for as much of their journey as possible and avoid hanging around in the City Centre in large groups. It is also advisable that, on their journey to and from school, students refrain from exposing any expensive personal technology such as mobile phones. Students should report any strange or concerning behaviour on their way to or from school to a member of staff or designated safeguarding lead.

Central Academy remains committed to educating our young people about the dangers of crime and ways in which they should keep themselves safe and make positive choices. Students will also be reminded of the extensive support networks which are available to them in school should they have any reason to feel un-safe. Please encourage students to make use of these, and please do get in touch with school if you wish to discuss this further or if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Bailey
Headteacher