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Our Reference:

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to remind you of the current process we have in place in Sandwell for dealing with students who take weapons onto educational premises.

We take the safety of our young people very seriously and we want to do all that we can to ensure they are as safe as possible at all times.

Thankfully in Sandwell we have very few incidents of students taking weapons into school however we do not want to be complacent. With this in mind we have created a process that will be the same for every school across Sandwell. We have consulted with key partners including Police colleagues, schools, Sandwell Children's Trust and other educational departments to ensure we get this right. It will mean that the Police will be called on every occasion and the matter will be recorded as a crime.

Your child will have received an input at school informing them of the process and what the consequences will be if they ignore it. Please take the time to ask them about it and ensure they understand it. In order to help with this I have prepared a short video for you to watch which will briefly explain the process to you. Here is the link to the video <https://youtu.be/CqFoAmcyutY>

The purpose of this process is to ensure every young person across the borough taking a weapon into school is dealt with in the same way, every opportunity is taken to provide support and positive intervention where needed and every young person understands the dangers of taking weapons into school.

I want to assure you that our schools in Sandwell are already very safe places for our children and young people. By creating this process we hope that the very small minority of young people who think about taking a weapon into school will now think otherwise.

If you want any further information about this or you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

PC 1330 Jon Hewett
Education Partnerships Officer
Sandwell Police