



Ref TJL/AH/LMK

12 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Safeguarding Coventry students from knives and drugs

As part of a Coventry wide strategy to reduce knife/drug crime, Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School will participate with a programme to encourage young people to make the right decisions. In addition to our robust pastoral programme on joint enterprise, drug use and knife crime, the police will be providing a metal detector and a K9 unit at some point over the next two terms. The police aim to visit all schools in Coventry with this resource to discourage young people from ever carrying knives or drugs.

This is not in response to any issues specifically at our school. However, we wish to support the police and our community partners with this city-wide strategy and build on the work already done with students through our comprehensive PSHE and Citizenship teaching programmes.

Metal detector

When the metal detector is on site, the police will ask students to walk through the detector and will ask to search school bags (much like an airport).

K9 unit

The police will accompany their dogs around the school site with senior staff and will visit classrooms, common areas, toilets, canteen queue and site boundary. The dogs are trained to sit next to anyone they suspect may smell of drugs and the police will conduct searches on those people.

We do not envisage our students encountering any problems on the days of these visits; the core aim being to discourage any student from ever carrying these items.

We thank you for your support with this.

Yours faithfully

Thomas Leverage
Executive Principal