



Reading Safeguarding Team
Reading Police Station
Castle Street
Reading
RG1 7TH

Tel: 101

29th April, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

As part of the ongoing positive partnership with secondary schools in Reading, Thames Valley Police are continuing to attend schools on an unannounced basis to conduct safety checks. This could include bag searches, safety arches and the use of drug detection dogs.

The purpose of these checks is to maintain the current high safety standards in schools for both the students and staff, as well as the wider community. In Reading, knife carrying in school is not common place, these safety checks will continue to offer reassurance and help prevent knives being carried in our schools in the future.

All students know what they should and shouldn't have in their possession so these checks should not cause any disruption and act only as an opportunity to provide reassurance. In some local schools these checks are already routine. In the unlikely event that a knife is found, the young person will be given an opportunity to explain its presence and learn from the experience. Other safeguarding measures would also be put in place. Should you have any questions, concerns or feedback now or following a safety check please contact MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org

Yours Sincerely

Reading Safeguarding Team

Thames Valley Police