



nishkamhighschool  
birmingham



24<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

**The following information is very important for you and your children: please read carefully and guide your child(ren) appropriately.**

There have been several distressing incidents that have taken place over the past three weeks involving our pupils as victims. These incidents have been carried out during both the journey to and from school.

We are working very closely with the police to safeguard our children. The fast reporting of these incidents has led to two arrests with both suspects being charged. Your child will probably have told you that we have had regular visits from the police and that they have all now had a safety assembly delivered by West Midlands Police.

There are clear messages to share with your child(ren):

- All valuables should be kept out of sight, **most particularly mobile phones and/or headphones**. These items attract the criminal element in this neighbourhood and, at the same time, often mean our pupils are not vigilant toward what is happening around them.
- Pupils need to go straight home at the end of the school day and, where possible, travel home in small groups.
- Pupils should avoid being late to school in the mornings; they should walk in, where possible, in pairs or small groups.

I am also concerned about the number of these incidents that are **not** being reported to the police; parents must report them to the police. At school we are hearing accounts from parents or pupils sometimes days after an incident has happened. (Please see Police guidance for reporting a crime overleaf.)

Nishkam High School  
Great King Street North, Birmingham, B19 2LF  
T: 0121 348 7660  
www.nishkamschool.org  
Principal: Mr. D. Kearns

Nishkam High School is a part of the Nishkam School Trust | Chief Executive Officer: Dr B. S. Mahon | Company Number: 7522245 | Registered Office: Nishkam School Trust, Head Office, Great King Street North, Hockley, Birmingham, B19 2LF



## **Police Guidance on reporting a crime**

Please ensure that any incident involving your child is reported to the Police immediately. The school should also be made aware of the incident as a matter of urgency.

*Police advice for calling 999:*

- *call when it's an emergency*
- *call when a crime is in progress*
- *call if someone suspected of a crime is nearby*
- *call when there is danger to life*
- *call when violence is being used or threatened*

*If you don't need an emergency response, then you should call 101.*

*This could be to report a crime or to seek advice; for example, your child is home and safe but tells you they have been robbed or threatened.*

Finally, I would also encourage parents to balance their child's desire for a mobile phone costing hundreds of pounds with the risk it poses to their safety. I have made mention of this several times in the past. To some degree, we all think these things will never happen to us, but recent events should heighten everyone's vigilance.

If you are concerned about any matter raised in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact our Safeguarding Lead at the school, Mrs Chatwin.

Kind regards,



Damien Kearns  
Principal