

Thursday 5th December, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We have been informed by West Midlands Police about an attempt to abduct a child from the Handsworth Wood/Lozells area of Birmingham on 4.12.24. West Midlands Police are currently investigating the incident. This was not a pupil from Grove School.

Events like these remind us of the importance of ensuring children are aware of "stranger danger," especially when walking to and from school unaccompanied. We address this in school as part of our safeguarding measures, and today, teachers are reminding children in years 5 and 6 of the basic rules to stay safe:

- Never talk to strangers
- Always ignore strangers who ask questions or tell you to do something
- Avoid walking alone whenever possible
- Speak only to trusted adults if you are concerned about anything

We will remind pupils in lower school about these basic rules in assemblies on Friday.

As parents and carers, we know you want to stay informed. Should a similar situation arise in our area, we will communicate this with parents following guidance from Birmingham City Council and West Midlands Police, as appropriate. We also advise you to discuss these safety rules with your children, especially if they travel to and from school unaccompanied.

Thank you for your support. If you see anything suspicious in the local area, please contact the police and the school. West Midlands Police can be contacted via Live Chat at West Midlands Police between 8am and midnight or by calling 101.

Yours sincerely,

Ms J Baker Head Teacher