

18th March 2025

Dear Parent and Carer,

**Media interest following court sentencing**

I am writing to you following our recent communication that a man who had pleaded guilty to murder at Luton Crown Court also revealed that he had intended to cause further harm at a Luton primary school.

While our school was not his intended target, further revelations came out at sentencing at Luton Crown Court today that is being widely reported in the media and is deeply distressing, shocking and upsetting for pupils, families and staff across the wider school community.

This news is deeply distressing for all of us, but it is important to remember that this individual was not able to cause any harm to the other school. As mentioned when we wrote last month, we have robust systems in place to keep your children safe at school at all times – this is and will always be our number one priority.

Security at the school is constantly reviewed and monitored and in the last couple of weeks we have taken the following actions to further strengthen our already robust security and safety arrangements:

- We have clear 'lock down' procedures in place that are rehearsed annually and have been further reviewed at this time following Government Guidance
- Our site has appropriate levels of security with secure access during the day, extensive CCTV and any weaker points identified for remedial action
- Staff have been updated and reminded of their roles to be always vigilant regarding security and safety; reporting any concerns immediately
- Senior leaders have identified further actions that can be taken to enhance our already secure school site

In addition, Luton Council is organising a Luton Education event with schools across the town where security will be a strong focus. This is to collectively discuss and agree what can be done across schools to further strengthen safety, including any asks we may have for the government.

We recognise that this case and the media coverage around this case is causing concern for parents and students, not just in Luton, but across the whole UK.

Please let the school know if you or your child gets affected by media coverage tomorrow so we can ensure there is support available.

While there will be media coverage of this case, we would ask you to refrain from speaking to them or speculating about the circumstances on social media as this could cause further distress to the family of the victims, school pupils and other parents.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself at the school or by emailing [Head@lealands.luton.sch.uk](mailto:Head@lealands.luton.sch.uk)

Please be assured that we do all we can to ensure the safety and security of our school community at Lealands and this responsibility is taken with the utmost seriousness.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Burridge  
Headteacher