



12<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

## KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE AFTER SCHOOL

We work very hard with you as a school to keep your child safe. This has included, this week, working with our police liaison team on e-safety assemblies. We need you to support us by proactively playing your part. How can you help?

- **By monitoring the use of social media by your child.**
- **By ensuring they do not bring their phone into school.**
- **By insisting that they go straight home once they leave school, and are absolutely not in the local area in school uniform.**

We are vigilant regarding this at Cardinal Pole Catholic School and regularly search children and act on information provided. We apply the full force of our sanctions, including permanent exclusion to students who breach our policy. Please be aware that I have the agreement of several local businesses in Hackney Central and Dalston that they will provide me with their CCTV tapes. I have already used these to exclude some students.

Why is this continuing to be something that I have been writing home about?

- **In the last two years 17,000 weapons have been seized in secondary schools.**
- **11 young people died from knife wounds in the London in the last 2 weeks**
- **3 people are killed or seriously injured by knives every day in London.**

Your child being present in the local area instead of going home makes them more vulnerable. Having access to social media exacerbates this.

All other Headteachers in Hackney have been asked to write to parents also on this matter.

I ask of you to support the school with our expectation that your child leaves school and goes straight home.

Yours sincerely

Ms J Heffernan  
**HEADTEACHER**



*Elijah Dornelly, 17, stabbed to death in Walthamstow*



*Map showing 11 fatal knife attacks in London in the past two weeks.*

