



The Priory School

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11th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you to express our significant concern over reports from the police of antisocial behaviour of some young people within the town centre. They are predominantly, but not exclusively, from the older age range of Year 10 and up. Specifically that they, with students of similar ages from other schools, are gathering in within the vicinity of the Quarry Park in Shrewsbury and engaging in antisocial behaviour.

Now that we find ourselves in our third lockdown many young people may seek greater social contact, but this could lead to significant consequences for our young people. Notwithstanding concerns expressed about social distancing, which may lead to a more rapid spread of the virus amongst households, and the amount of litter that needs to be cleared up in the aftermath, our greatest fear is the potential for exploitation. Such gatherings create a target for those involved in any form of exploitation, whether that be criminal or sexual, possibly involving alcohol or drugs, and makes our young people vulnerable to involvement in other activities.

The present restrictions with schools closed to the majority have made our young people vulnerable to those who would exploit them, and I wanted to raise your awareness so you can be vigilant around conversations with your child. The police are taking the matter very seriously and will be following up any reports with identified people on an individual basis.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Pope
Headteacher