



CITY OF COVENTRY

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Monday 25th September 2017

Dear parents and carers

Sadly I have to inform you that there was an incident yesterday in which one of our children was put at risk by a stranger whilst playing out with friends. Police are involved and a man is currently being questioned by the police. Unfortunately, I have been advised not to go into too many details due to the ongoing police investigation, but I wanted to reassure you that we have spoken to all of the children today about stranger danger and approaching cars or strangers and would advise you to reiterate this message at home. Thankfully this was a failed attempt but we are particularly concerned as the incident took place mid Sunday afternoon on a busy street.

Whilst we do not want to frighten the children it is important we teach them how to look after themselves. Advice is as follows, please try not to make your children scared, but just check with them that they know how to help keep themselves safe:-

- Don't talk to strangers or take anything from them.
- Don't go anywhere with someone you don't know, or anyone you are uncomfortable with.
- Stay more than an arm's reach from strangers. If you are approached by a stranger, seek help immediately.
- Trust your instincts, if you feel you are being followed or something is not right, seek help immediately.
- Use the buddy system, avoid walking anywhere alone.
- Review contact telephone numbers and home safety practices.
- When seeking help, always go to a trusted adult – teacher, coach, police officer, other parent, or older siblings.
- If a stranger grabs you, do everything you can to stop him or her from pulling you away. (e.g. Drop to the ground, kick, hit, bite, and scream – help me -I don't know this person.)
- Have a special code word that you and your child know so that if someone says they have been sent by their parents they will know if it's true or not.

Kind regards

Jayne Ellis
Headteacher

