



26th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We know that some schools have become aware of a recent social media trend encouraging fights between young people. Many of the posts being shared mention secondary schools in Bristol and South Gloucestershire.

We understand that this may be worrying for families, and we want to reassure you that schools are working hard to support their pupils and respond to any concerns. This letter explains what we know so far and where you can find help if you need it.

As soon as this trend came to light, **Avon and Somerset Police**, **Bristol City Council**, and **South Gloucestershire Council** began meeting to look into the situation. They are checking whether the posts pose any real risk and how they might affect children, young people, and their families.

At the moment, **there is no evidence** that these posts are connected to any genuine plans for violence, and we do not believe that the messages encouraging fights are being acted upon. Many of the posts appear to be shared by people trying to warn others, even if the information itself seems alarming.

All three organisations are continuing to monitor the situation closely. They are also working with youth and community groups to identify any emerging concerns. If you or your child are worried, please talk to your school so they can offer support and reassurance. Any risks to a child's safety or wellbeing will be taken seriously and dealt with promptly.

You may notice an increased police presence in some areas. Officers will be there to reassure communities and may be positioned near schools at the beginning and end of the school day.

We know how important it is for everyone to work together to keep children and young people safe. Schools help pupils understand how to stay safe and build positive relationships. Please continue to share any concerns you may have with your child's school, following normal safeguarding procedures. Staff across our organisations are aware of this trend and will respond to any safeguarding or wellbeing concerns raised by families.

Some young people or parents may prefer to talk to someone outside school. The following numbers may be helpful:

Emergency and police contacts

- **999** – for emergencies or if someone is in immediate danger
- **101** – non-emergency police number

Social care teams

- **Bristol City Council Social Care:** 0117 903 6444
- **South Gloucestershire Social Care:** 01454 866000

Mental health support (Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership):

- **Adults:** 0800 953 1919
- **Children and young people:** 0800 953 9599

Online support

- **Kooth** – free online counselling for young people aged 11–18

Thank you for your continued support in helping to keep our children and young people safe.

Jen Cusack

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Principal



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