



Sheldon School

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Below is an update from the Chippenham Neighbourhood Policing Team

"We are writing in relation to a number of reports which have been increasing concern in the community.

The reports relate to instances in which children and women have said they have been followed or felt threatened by a lone male. In none of these incidents has anyone been physically harmed, and there is no evidence to suggest that they are linked. Such reports will be of concern and will have been the subject of speculation on social media. The increase in reports has led to a heightened sense of anxiety within the local community, particularly among parents and school staff. Some spontaneous reports may have been driven by raised awareness rather than direct threats.

We take such instances seriously and are reviewing the circumstances of each report. In addition, we have increased patrols in the area. Our neighbourhood teams are working closely with local schools and community leaders to provide reassurance.

*We would advise members of the public to seek factual information provided by Wiltshire Police on the Chippenham Police Facebook page or the **Wiltshire Police website**, or via trusted news organisations.*

*We encourage anyone with concerns to report them to us either via our website **Report a crime | Wiltshire Police** or by calling **101**. In an emergency, always call **999**."*

Inspector Peter Foster, Chippenham Neighbourhood Policing Team

Continued Education and Sharing Information

At Sheldon, student safety remains our top priority. We are in regular contact with the relevant authorities to ensure we stay informed and responsive to the situation. Students are continually reminded about safe travel to and from school, with a strong emphasis on walking in groups where possible. These reminders are being reinforced through tutor time and assemblies.

Enhanced Supervision at the Start and End of the School Day

To further reassure our families, students, and the wider community, we will continue providing additional staff supervision before and after school. This will remain in place until half-term, at which point we will review the situation based on the latest information.

Staff will focus their presence along the main road leading to the Aldi car park and through the Donkey Field to the Chippenham Sports Club car park. To ease congestion and ensure student safety, we encourage parents to arrange pick-up from these locations rather than at the front of the school, where school buses and taxis from both secondary schools create high traffic volume.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and the local community for their support and thank my staff for going above and beyond in looking out for our extended family.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Lynch
Headteacher