



Westfield Academy

Headteacher: T.Body

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10th October 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you have no doubt seen in the local media there are a number of reports regarding “a sinister social media group threatening to terrify Watford children by dressing up as creepy clowns outside school gates.” Alongside this specifically there is a site set up by “Bob Johnson – Watford clowns” stating that they will target both Westfield and Queens Schools on Fri 21st October. (See the links below.)

From what I can see this is a craze that has come from America which is driven by social media. Whilst this may be a fad, I can assure you that we are treating this matter seriously. At Westfield the safety of our pupils is paramount; we monitor our site regularly, it is safe and secure and I have staff on duty in orange jackets before, during and after school. However, to ensure we know as much as possible Mr Finill my Inclusion Manager is contacting the local police in order to get greater clarity on what is going on and more importantly what the police are doing to support schools.

In school and at home I believe our duty is to ensure that the young people are not panicked and scared. Please assure them that as a school we do all we can to ensure they are safe at all times. It would be advisable to talk to your children at home about their basic safety;

- Not to talk to strangers
- To walk home in groups rather than on their own
- To report anything that seems unusual to one of my staff on duty
- To contact the police if they are particularly worried at any point when out and about

If we get any more information or guidance from the police then I will update you straightaway.

Best wishes

Tim Body
Headteacher

http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/14791034.Watford_schools_warned_they_will_be_targeted_by_sinister_clown_group/

http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/14791029.Warnings_issued_over_clown_craze_sweeping_Hertfordshire/

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