



Aston Manor Academy

All different • All equal • All achieving

PHILLIPS STREET, ASTON, BIRMINGHAM B6 4PZ TEL: 0121 359 8108 FAX: 0121 359 2426

EMAIL: enquiry@astonmanoracademy.com

WEBSITE: www.astonmanoracademy.com

HEADTEACHER: JILL SWEENEY



Friday November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Police Partnerships

Aston Manor Academy, along with other local schools, are part of a Safer Schools Partnership working with West Midlands Police. The Safer Schools Partnership has a remit to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the local area; keep our communities safe; and educate our young people on key issues. As part of this Birmingham wide agreement we are lucky enough to have a link police officer in school each week.

PC Abley has worked with the school for some time and is familiar with the school and local community, he is able to support us with delivering assemblies and workshops, PSHE lessons and discussions with students around behaviour and consequences. He can also meet with students and mediate where needed, and support parents. PC Abley also supports us with safeguarding, visiting pupils at home where we may have concerns.

As you will be aware part of this joined up work includes assemblies on knife crime and gangs. Knife searches do take place throughout the school year, on a planned basis, led by the police. We also engage with training exercises with the drugs unit and invite dogs into the school, when students are not in the building. We have always found these exercises to be highly positive, and to date have not found any items of concern as a result from these searches.

Online behaviour

Online behaviour of students is an area where students are often unaware of the legality of their behaviour. Online behaviour can be dealt with by the police as criminal. Online abuse, hate crime, harassment, impersonating or stealing someone's identity, posting or receiving sexual images, threatening, using someone else's image without their permission are all examples of behaviour that may instigate school involving the police.

Since returning to school we have had a much higher number of social media issues between students, this is very upsetting for students and disruptive to their learning. We have also had instances of students impersonating staff online, making derogatory comments, and bringing the school name into disrepute. This will be treated with the utmost seriousness, it will be investigated thoroughly and the police will be contacted where we feel it is necessary. This could potentially lead to permanent exclusion from Aston Manor Academy. Pupils do not need mobile phones in school for any reason.

Online abuse of others is cowardly and hurtful and can impact people in ways which the abuser does not see or understand. This can lead to absence from school, lowered self-esteem and have a major impact on well-being and mental health.





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As a parent it is your duty to ensure that your child is only using age appropriate sites, and that you are monitoring their internet use. Please talk to your child about their online behaviour and set limits on devices. Please see the websites below for guidance:

[Parents and Carers | Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Online Safety for Children - Tips & Guides | NSPCC](#)

[Social Media & Mental Health | Guide For Parents | YoungMinds](#)

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

We welcome comments and suggestions from parents, please email enquiry@astonmanoracademy.com

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Sweeney
Headteacher

