



16th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to inform you that we have had another series of unpleasant TikTok posts posted online within the past 24 hours that have included derogatory comments about staff and students. One post in particular, has made a threat toward the school, which appears to be linked to the threatening messages that were posted during the incident in the summer term. For parents who are not aware of this incident, the posts referred to stabbings that were planned to take place at the school. Sadly, these types of posts are becoming all too common in schools and communities across the country.

As with the incident in the summer, we are confident that this is a case of appalling and inappropriate behaviour designed to disrupt the school and make children and staff feel unsafe. We do not believe the threat to be credible. The incident has been reported to the police and we have requested that TikTok remove these posts immediately. We have taken advice from the police and they are continuing to support us at this time.

Whilst we do not believe this threat to be credible, there will be a heightened leadership and general staff presence in and around the school throughout the day tomorrow, as well as in the local vicinity for a period of time at the end of the school day. It is also highly likely that there will be a police presence in the local vicinity at the start and end of the day.

We will continue to work with the police and social media platforms to attempt to find the perpetrators of these acts. We found this extremely challenging in the summer term but we will continue to do our very best to find those responsible and remove this behaviour from the school. I would also ask parents and carers to monitor their child's behaviour on social media where possible and for any member of the community to provide any potential information about the source of these posts to the school.

I would again like to stress that we are confident that this is another example of intolerable social media related behaviour and that we do not believe there to be a credible threat. If parents or carers do have any information that they believe could be helpful to our investigation then please contact the school at the following email address: office@vynersschool.org.uk. We would also ask that parents and carers keep the phone lines clear unless contacting the school for any other reason.

I am sorry to have to share news of this appalling behaviour with parents and carers. Thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Gary Mullings
Headteacher

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