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The West Bridgford School

Mr T Peacock B.Sc (Hons)
Headteacher

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our commitment to keeping all members of our school community safe, we would like to inform you about an upcoming lockdown practice that will take place at school on Tuesday 7th July.

You may have heard of **Martyn's Law**, also known as the Protect Duty. This legislation was developed following the tragic Manchester Arena attack in 2017 and is intended to improve public safety by ensuring organisations and venues are better prepared to respond to potential terrorist incidents and other serious emergencies. The law encourages organisations, including schools, to consider security risks and have appropriate procedures in place to protect those in their care.

Although the likelihood of a serious incident occurring at school is very low, it is important that we are prepared for a range of emergency situations. Just as we regularly practice fire drills, schools are expected to have and rehearse lockdown procedures so that staff and students know how to respond calmly and safely if there is ever a need to secure the school building.

Prior to the practice, on Monday 6th July, students will watch a pre-recorded assembly explaining how a lockdown will work in school. During the practice, students will be guided by staff and asked to follow the school's lockdown procedures. The exercise will be carefully planned and supervised. We will explain the purpose of the practice to students beforehand and provide reassurance throughout. We cannot promise that everything will run smoothly, but just like a fire-drill we won't know until we try. During the practice access to the school will be prohibited as front of staff will also be in lock-down protocol.

We recognise that some young people may find the idea of a lockdown practice unsettling or anxiety-provoking. We are already considerate of our vulnerable students in school but, if you feel that your child may require any additional support before, during, or after the practice, please contact their pastoral or year director as soon as possible. We realise there may be events in our children's lives we are not aware of, so we want to try and avoid any possible triggers. This will allow us to work with you to put appropriate support in place and ensure your child feels safe and reassured.

Following the lockdown, we will hold a Q&A session for all students during lunchtime to share their thoughts and experiences. We will also send out a quick survey to parents/carers to gather any feedback that may have been shared at home.

If you have any questions or concerns about the lockdown practice, please do not hesitate to contact the school, adminoffice@wbs.school but we would appreciate you discussing this practice with your child prior to the event. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe environment for all students and staff.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Sharpe
Deputy Headteacher

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