

27 September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

I have been contacted by a local school about an incident that happened yesterday morning, when two children reported being followed by a man in the alleyway that runs between the Wellington Square development and Ailesbury Road. The PSNI have been contacted about the incident and are investigating it, there may be an increased police presence over the next few days.

Personal safety is regularly taught as part of our school curriculum, we will again remind the children about staying safe, as parents you will want to reinforce this message.

Being in the company of others, shouting for help if worried, approaching 'safe' adults such as parents with children, people in familiar settings or people in positions of responsibility, are all strategies that can minimise risk, and deal with situations which make children feel uncomfortable.

However, it is important that children are not worried or frightened, and that they do not become overly anxious. Thankfully reports such as this, while disturbing, are rare.

The following link may be useful, <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-from-home/> , in school we use the NSPCC Keeping Safe programme.

If you have concerns, please contact me or the PSNI.

Yours sincerely,

Thelma Crawford