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Dear Parents/Carers,

We have all been concerned about the rise in recent media reports of knife crime, both nationally and locally. I wanted to take this opportunity to explain the work we do at Altus School to support students to be safe both in and out of school.

Our buildings are secure and on entry into school students' personal possessions that are not needed for school are handed in and locked away safely for return at the end of the day. In our KS3 and KS4 sites students are scanned as they come into the building so we can be confident we are all safe and each site has CCTV both internally and externally. Our pastoral programme of support includes PSHE lessons which cover issues of personal safety, crime and positive engagement in the community. Our trained and experienced staff work tirelessly to support our young people and are always available if a student needs to talk to someone.

I would urge you to speak to your child and if they have any worries, please encourage them to speak to a member of staff. Additionally, if you have any concerns, worries or information, please do not hesitate to contact us. Meanwhile, these websites may be of interest and use:

[Fearless – Safe4Me](#)

[Knife crime | Gloucestershire Constabulary](#)

[Home - Increase The Peace](#)

Information about 'amnesty bins' can be found here: [I carry a knife, what do I need to know? | Gloucestershire Constabulary.](#)

Many thanks

**Emma Gundry**

**Director of Alternative Provision/Head of the Altus School**