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11th March 2025

DELIVERING A

CORE EDUCATION

Dear Parents and Carers

We are well into the new half-term here and have a few notices for your attention.

Parent Local Governing Board Vacancy

We have one space open for a parent LGB member. This is the Board that meets 3 times per year (once per term) with senior leaders to support the strategic direction of the school. If you have a few spare hours and would like to get involved, please do contact me at <u>rreeve@corerockwood.academy</u> for more information by the end of **Monday 17th March 2025**.

Random Searches: Keeping Children Safe

Before half-term we re-started our programme of random searches within school. This involves the support of the local police-school link, PC Darren-Lee Fletcher. The programme means one tutor group per week is chosen whereby each pupil in that group has their bag and coat searched with an electronic wand. It is very rare that a child possesses an item that breaks our Behaviour Policy or, indeed, the law, but we must always be vigilant. Pupils simply must feel that they are safe in school and also that if they ever are in possession of such an item they will be identified very quickly. Therefore, random searches are a systematic method that everyone understands which is very effective at preventing any such incidents occurring and therefore keeps our school community safe.

A further avenue for this is the anonymous reporting tool, Whisper. Pupils can log on and report any concern they have anonymously here https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/rwd1/.

Virtual Reality Safeguarding

We were recently visited by the police and also BBC's Midland's Today to trial new Virtual-Reality headsets. This technology enables pupils to be placed in real-life scenarios in a safe way, where they have to make choices that they may face one day in real life. There was also a news story on the BBC website that you can find here: <u>Birmingham schools use virtual reality to tackle gang culture - BBC News</u>

As you know, safeguarding is our priority and we jumped at the opportunity to be at the forefront of something innovative that can help to keep our children safe.

Parent Internet Workshop

On **Friday 4th April 2025 from 9.30am to 10.30am**, we will be hosting a parent internet workshop, focusing on keeping our children safe from harmful online content and internet misinformation, such as fake news, social harms and social media.

The workshop will be a worthwhile opportunity to understand how to keep our children safer, in an everchanging online world. A select group have been sent invitations by Mr Singh so if you have received a letter please do respond as soon as possible. This group will also take part in the Media Literacy Programme on the following Fridays, the 2nd, 9th and 16th May 2025, 9.00am – 11.00am in school.

Thanks for your continued support.

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Mr R Reeve Headteacher

