



CRESTWOOD
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

KDS/JSS

4 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carers

School Lockdown Practice

As you are aware, the safety and welfare of our students and staff is a key priority at Crestwood. As part of our safeguarding commitment, we are planning to conduct lockdown alarm tests on both campuses on Monday 21 September on the Cherbourg Campus and Thursday 24 September on the Shakespeare Campus.

The lockdown alarm tests are designed to make staff and students aware of the bells that will sound when we are in a lockdown situation and the actions that staff and students should take in these circumstances. Students will be talked through the process by their tutors. We will then test our response to a lockdown situation via drills.

For clarity, a lockdown procedure is a sensible and proportionate response to any external or internal incident which has the potential to pose a threat to the safety of staff and students in the school. The aim of our procedure is to minimize disruption to the learning environment, whilst ensuring the safety of all students and staff. The lockdown procedure may be activated in response to any number of situations, but some of the more typical might be:-

- A reported incident / civil disturbance in the local community which has the potential to pose a risk to staff and students in the school
- An intruder on the school site, with the potential to pose a risk to staff and students
- A warning being received regarding a risk locally, of air pollution (smoke plume, gas cloud etc)
- A major fire in the vicinity of the school
- The close proximity of a dangerous dog roaming loose

Although these events are rare, it is essential that staff and students know the procedures to follow should there be a risk.

Can I please remind all parents and carers that, in the event of the school ever having to experience lockdown, you should not attempt to contact students or the school. I am sure you will understand there are obvious issues with any attempt to contact a student directly

Crestwood Community School

Shakespeare Campus, Shakespeare Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 4FZ | Cherbourg Campus, Cherbourg Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 5EL

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and attempted communication with the school could tie up telephone lines needed for contacting emergency service providers. Similarly, in the event of a lockdown, please do not come to the school in person as this could also interfere with access by emergency service providers and may even put you and others in danger. Rest assured, we will do our very best to ensure effective communication via the school website and email in the case of a genuine lockdown. We will also contact you about when and where it is safe to come and collect your child.

Please be assured that we have not received any information to indicate that the school is at risk, but it is essential that we take every step to ensure the students' well-being. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at adminoffice@crestwood.hants.sch.uk

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

Krista Dawkins
Headteacher

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