



Barking Town Hall
Town Hall Square
Barking
IG11 7LU

12th February 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are writing to you regarding a recent increase in incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) within Barking town centre, particularly during after-school hours.

Over the past few weeks, local officers and community wardens have observed groups of young people gathering in public areas and getting involved in ASB. This not only creates an unpleasant environment for residents, businesses, and visitors, but also places additional strain on local services.

We recognise that the vast majority of young people behave responsibly and contribute positively to our community. However, a small minority are engaging in behaviour that is impacting others.

We are therefore asking for your support in speaking with your child about not loitering in the town centre and to make their way home from school at the end of the school day.

Please remind your child that:

- Anti-social behaviour can have serious consequences, including formal warnings or further action where appropriate.
- Their behaviour reflects not only on themselves but also on their school and wider community.

We are continuing to conduct high-visibility patrols in the area and are working closely with local schools and partner agencies to address these concerns. Our aim is to educate and prevent issues before they escalate.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation and support in helping us maintain a safe and welcoming town centre for everyone. If you have any concerns or would like



to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Yours faithfully,

Mohammad Mahmood – Chief Inspector
Metropolitan Police Service – Barking and Dagenham

Mark Aspel – Head of Inclusion
London Borough of Barking & Dagenham – Education Services