



Barking Town Hall
Town Hall Square
Barking
IG11 7LU

24th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

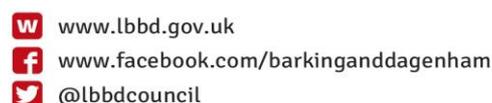
We are writing to you regarding troubling social media posts that have recently been circulating on social media. The posts appear to encourage pupils from different schools to engage in fighting and violent behaviour. We are deeply concerned about the impact this could have on the safety and wellbeing of our young people.

Our primary responsibility as a community, is to ensure your children are safe and supported. We kindly request your support with the following:

- Reinforcing the school's expectations of behaviour both inside and outside of school.
- Please remind your child to go straight home after school and stick to main roads and well-lit routes.
- Students should avoid congregating in parks, playgrounds, or other communal spaces where incidents may occur.
- Students should also avoid going to other schools at the end of the school day.
- Staff will continue to be on duty at the end of the school day.
- If students are concerned, they should go back to school and speak to staff or go into a local shop for support.

By following these guidelines, we can significantly reduce the risk of involvement in unsafe or inappropriate behaviour.

The Metropolitan police are monitoring the situation closely and are in regular contact with schools to offer reassurance and support. Police officers will continue to maintain a strong and visible presence around schools, where appropriate. They will respond promptly and firmly to any reports of violence or disorder to help ensure the safety of all young people. The police are also monitoring online activity and have worked with social media platforms to request the disabling of several accounts where threats or encouragement of violence were identified.





Commander Neerav Patel has reminded young people of the serious consequences of becoming involved in situations of this nature. Any involvement in violence or carrying weapons can lead to arrest, criminal charges or even imprisonment, with long-term impacts on future opportunities.

If your child is aware of any further information, please encourage them to speak with a trusted adult or a member of staff. We are committed to working with families to address any concerns and to provide the necessary support. Should you have any information or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly. You can also contact the police via Crime Stoppers on 0800 555111 or through your local neighbourhood team.

We appreciate your partnership in keeping our community safe for everyone. Thank you for your continued support and vigilance.
Yours sincerely,

Biju Premnath – Superintendent
Metropolitan Police Service – Barking and Dagenham

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

