



**HODGE HILL  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents

## **ADVICE ON KEEPING SAFE**

We have received this advice from West Midlands Police and wanted to share it with you

This time of year, people are out shopping and celebrating with friends.

As the crowds grow out on the street and in bars, restaurants and clubs, we see a rise in robbery. Try following a few simple tips, you can help protect your property out on the street:

- ☒ Listen to your head - if you don't feel safe move to a busier area.
- ☒ Know your route and avoid badly-lit streets.
- ☒ Tell a trusted person where you're going and when you'll be back.
- ☒ If you take a different route home from your friends, let each other know that you've arrived safely. Apps like Whatsapp and Snapchat allow you to share your location with your friends.
- ☒ Carry your bag securely. Put the strap across your body and make sure the fasteners are facing you.
- ☒ If you use a cashpoint, try to do so during daylight hours. If you have to use a cashpoint at night go with a friend and stay alert to other people on the street.
- ☒ Avoid carrying your wallet or phone in your back pocket
- ☒ Don't leave your phone out on a table when socialising

For more advice visit [Robbery and theft | Your Options | West Midlands Police \(west-midlands.police.uk\)](https://www.west-midlands.police.uk)

### **Robbery – travel**

- ☒ During the darker nights, it can be worrying to wait for a bus or travel to the nearest station.
- ☒ We want you to stay safe, so please follow these simple travelling tips
- ☒ Stick to well-lit routes and bus stations
- ☒ Avoid carrying your wallet or phone in your back pocket and never hold it out on display
- ☒ Keep valuables, especially jewellery, out of sight.
- ☒ Keep luggage close at hand at all times and in sight if possible. Don't have your name or address visible on any tags
- ☒ Keep keys separate from anything with your address on it. If you are travelling, someone may assume your house is empty
- ☒ Wait for the bus, train or tram at a busy place
- ☒ When on a bus, train or tram, sit downstairs and near to the driver
- ☒ Our Safer Travel team are always about to help you. Keep the British Transport Police text service handy for non-emergency incidents: TEXT 61016

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## Robbery – in bars, restaurants and clubs

The festive season is upon us.

November and December are always a busy time in the region's bars, cafes, and pubs. It's a great reason to get together to celebrate but it always pays to keep an eye on your valuables while you're out to prevent theft and robbery.

Our top tips are:

- ❑ **Keep your bag closed and close to you.**
- ❑ **Keep your mobile phone on you in a bag or pocket, instead of out on the table**
- ❑ **Avoid carrying your wallet or phone in your back pocket**
- ❑ **Don't forget to make sure your friends know how they are getting home at the end of the night and pre-book a taxi if needed.**

For more advice visit [Robbery and theft | Your Options | West Midlands Police \(west-midlands.police.uk\)](https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/Robbery-and-theft-Your-Options)