



Beamish Road, Billingham, TS23 3DX



enquiries@stmichaels.bhcet.org.uk



(01642) 870003



stmichaels.bhcet.org.uk



St Michael's
Catholic Academy

Head Teacher: Clare Humble

Deputy Head(s): Marc Scott, Clare Carey
& Matthew McAuley

BHCET CEO: Stuart McGhee

BHCET Chair of Directors: Yvonne Coates

12 February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Lockdown Drill

I hope this finds you well.

During assemblies this week, we are preparing students for a Lockdown Drill, which will take place this week.

A *Lockdown Drill* is our prepared response to any threat posed by an intruder or person with either a firearm or a weapon. All schools and academies throughout the country have in place such procedures and, clearly, our paramount priority in the highly unlikely event of such an attack in the Academy is to safeguard the students and staff.

The procedure for an emergency lockdown is very different from the procedure for fire, which would always necessitate an evacuation of the building. Staff are being provided with training for the drill, and we will review the success of this drill after it has taken place.

In such circumstances of a lockdown, the following will occur:

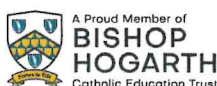
- A lockdown siren will be sounded
- Students will follow the instructions of the staff with them.
- There are procedures for making all classrooms safe, ensuring that students are out of sight and doors are secured.
- There are additional procedures for safe evacuation which would only be authorised by the Police.

I am very aware that such a drill can cause anxiety for students and, indeed, for adults. I would be grateful if you would talk with your son or daughter should they be anxious about the lockdown drill.

In the event of a lockdown situation, I would ask parents to refrain from contacting the Academy directly, as there will be key personnel who will liaise with parents when it is safe to do so. Let us hope that such a situation will never occur. Nevertheless, it is vital that we have a procedure which all students understand so that we ensure that our young people are safe from danger.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Humble
Headteacher



Act Justly, Love Tenderly and Walk Humbly with your God