



**Wellfield Academy**

Headteacher Mr J Lewis

21st April 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### UK Emergency Alert Test

#### **National Test of the UK Emergency Alert Service**

This weekend, on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 3pm, there will be a national test of the UK Emergency Alert and there is an official factsheet that is also attached. Mobile phones (and possibly some tablets) will sound and you will hear a loud siren-like sound and vibration for up to 10 seconds. A message will appear on the screen and you must acknowledge it before you can use other features on the device. Only the government and the emergency services will be able to send them and only in the circumstances that are outlined.

The government does not need to know your phone number or location to send you an alert – this means that students may receive the alert as well. To be fully prepared, students have been informed about it this morning. [Here](#) is a link to the UK government website and another link to the [Newsround](#) piece which is very informative but also user friendly.

The survivors of domestic abuse often use a secret phone that is hidden. There has been widespread publicity about the impact that this emergency alert may have on them and may lead to detection of the phone. The advice from those who support survivors is to opt out of receiving the alerts altogether; this means that a phone will not alert. If this is not possible, switch off the phone or put it in aeroplane mode. [Here](#) is the advice from Refuge and it includes the instructions about how to manage technology to opt out of receiving alerts.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your support to ensure your child is well prepared for the new term. We have had a fantastic start to the summer term which has been helped, of course, by plenty of sunshine. Your understanding and your respectful communication about all of the arrangements that are outlined in this letter continue to be much appreciated. If you have any questions, please do hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Lewis

**Headteacher**