

## CANFORD HEATH **INFANT and JUNIOR SCHOOLS**

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**TEACH Trust Poole** 

Trust Excellence Aspiration Collaboration Honesty Article 28: Children have a right to a primary education.

19th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers.

From September 2019, the Department for Education required all schools to have additional safety procedures in place, which must be practised with all children. This procedure is called 'Lockdown.' In the same way that schools have to practise fire evacuations each term, we are also expected to practise lockdown drills at least once a year, as well.

In the week of our lockdown drill, week beginning Monday 26th February, all our staff will carefully and sensitively explain the procedure to our children. We have planned a brief refresher lesson to help prepare our children for these drills, so that they can be undertaken effectively but without scaring them. Staff will reassure children during and after the drill and will emphasise that this is similar to a fire drill but for Lockdown, we don't leave the school buildings. We hope that, in no time at all, they will see the Lockdown drills in the same way that they see the fire drills, and learn that they are nothing to be afraid of.

I would invite parents and carers to discuss the process and reasons for Lockdown procedures in an open, supportive manner with their children. I must also emphasise that we are required. by law, to practise Lockdown, so that in the very unlikely event of such a situation occurring, our children and staff are fully prepared. There will be no mention of weapons, terrorists or similar language with children in our preparations for Lockdown, unless of course, a child directly asks us questions using this vocabulary.

If you or your child/children have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. A copy of the new Lockdown Policy and Procedures is available on our school website.

Thank you for your support with this matter, and please rest assured that we will do everything we can to handle this activity with sensitivity and care.

Yours faithfully

Headteacher





















