

27th February 2026



Dear Parent/Carer,

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and keeping our schools safe, calm and supportive environments for all students and staff, we would like to share a quick update on the safety measures we have across the Trust.

The safety and wellbeing of our children is always our highest priority. This update forms part of our wider safeguarding and safety planning to ensure we are well prepared should the need ever arise.

Lockdown Drills

We will be increasing the frequency of lockdown drills in our schools. These will be treated in the same way as fire drills, a routine and essential part of keeping everyone safe.

As with fire drills, lockdown drills will not always be communicated in advance. This approach helps ensure drills are realistic and effective, allowing staff and students to practise responding calmly and appropriately. Following any drill, students will be reassured and supported by staff, and parents will be informed once the drill has taken place.

While the term “lockdown” can sound concerning, these drills are about preparedness rather than expectation. Regular practice helps ensure that everyone knows what to do and feels confident and safe.

Yours Sincerely,

Hilary Macmeekin

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane Coley'.

Hilary Macmeekin

Jane Coley

Headteacher

CEO Ascend Learning Trust