

## HOWLETCH LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pennine Drive PETERLEE Co Durham SR8 2NQ

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26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## **Dear Parents**

I am writing to give some clarity about the event in the car park yesterday next to KS2 yard.

We received a phone call stating that there appeared to be a man filming / taking photos of the children on his phone whilst walking in the car park next to KS2 yard. The caretakers and I went straight down to the yard but the man could not be seen. Some of the children said they had been near the fence and thought that the man was taking photos but they weren't sure.

As a precaution I contacted the police who have agreed to increase their patrols and presence in the area around the school. We have no evidence to prove that the man concerned was doing anything illegal but the caretakers and staff will continue to be vigilant and monitor the areas around the school grounds.

I believe that there have been concerns raised on social media about security within school. I would like to reassure you that the school is completely locked and sealed off from visitors during school hours. The only entrance is through the main Reception area which is controlled electronically. The school gates are open for deliveries but there is a locked gate between the car park and the KS2 yard area and visitors to the school cannot access the yard from the car park.

I hope that this gives you some reassurance. If you have any other concerns, please do not he sitate to contact the school.

Kind Regards Mrs H Adair.

