

28/09/20

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

I need to make you aware of two robberies that have occurred in the past two weeks surrounding users of the 74 bus and students at King Edward VI Grammar School for Boys. These incidents have involved intimidation (not force) and are connected to several other cases of intimidating behaviour towards their students who use the 74 bus; it is thought that the perpetrator is a lone individual.

Some of this has taken place on the bus itself, as well as on and around the Priory Queensway in the centre of Birmingham. The school has alerted police to this 10 days ago, and they have stepped-up their supervision of the area, but unfortunately this morning, an incident took place on the bus itself.

The police have detailed descriptions of this individual and they intend to arrest him. However, in the meantime, if your child uses this route it may be prudent to organise an alternative for your child. If they must use the service they should:

- **Avoid using gadgets (including earphones) whilst waiting for, and on the bus**
- **Avoid sitting upstairs if possible**
- **Cooperate - should they be approached and intimidated**
- **If they feel it is safe to do so, tell the bus driver if they experience any intimidation**

The area (just near the Wesleyan business district) is usually a busy and bustling part of town and it is sad that this is currently not the case and that this presents such an opportunity. Thankfully, such incidents are rare and we would like to reassure you that the school are in regular contact with the police, are monitoring the situation, and will update you accordingly.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards

Mrs J Humpherson – Director of Student Welfare and Wellbeing (Lead DSL)

Headteacher: Mr Qamar Riaz BA (Hons)