



RH/SF

Headteacher: Mr R Harrison

16 April 2018

Dear Parents

I think it is important that I share with you the reasons why we remained open as normal on Friday 13 March 2018 following the receipt of what we now know to have been a hoax email.

Firstly can I thank the vast majority of our students for the way they maturely 'got on with the day' on Friday having been made aware of the hoax.

The email was clearly written with American schools in mind referring to 'the campus' and warning us 'not to contact the FBI'. We were aware that a number of local Primary schools had also received the email and when we contacted the police, we were informed that it had been sent out across the country and they were treating it as a clear hoax. The police advised there was no risk to our students.

It appears that these emails were sent by individuals looking for attention or trying to cause maximum disruption. We knew our students were safe in school but with many parents at work, going home may would not necessarily be practical and would leave some students in a potentially less safe situation. It is also important that we prevent disruption to learning not only by remaining open, but also by keeping students calm.

Once we became aware that several Primaries had taken the decision to close and parents were calling the school we sent the text message to parents. Some parents then chose to collect their children, which I can understand, but would ask you to consider if this is necessary should we ever receive further messages of this type in the future.

In partnership with the Local Authority and Humberside Police, we will be reviewing our emergency procedures for incidents such as this and will share these with students and parents in due course. You can be assured that if we had any doubt that a threat like this was real we would take the steps necessary to safeguard our students.

Sadly it is all too easy to send such messages to cause disruption and the likelihood is that we will receive such hoax messages again as it seems to be happening across the country on a regular basis at present.

Thank you to all those parents who contacted us to offer support for our decision.

Richard Harrison
Headteacher