Bournville
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Families

As part of our safeguarding procedures, throughout the school year we work with children to help them understand how to respond safely in the event of an emergency.

Across the year, we teach children what to do if there is a fire and what to do if the school needs to enter a lockdown procedure.

A lockdown would only be used if we needed to restrict movement because of a potential risk to children and staff. This could be due to:

· A threat from a person

· An environmental issue, such as hazardous gases in the area

· A concern or threat that we have been alerted to within the local community

When teaching children about fire drills and lockdown procedures, we explain where they need to be, how to follow adult instructions, and who the trusted adults are that will keep them safe. Children will also learn about the different alarm signals and what actions they need to take when they hear them.

These procedures are discussed regularly and practised throughout the year. We will carry out drills at different times of the school day so that children become familiar with responding safely in a range of situations. Sometimes children will be informed in advance that a drill is taking place, and at other times they will not be given notice, helping them to practise responding as they would in a real emergency.

This week, we completed a fire drill in school. We were extremely proud of how well the children responded. They followed instructions carefully, remained calm and sensible throughout, and the drill was organised and completed smoothly.

Today, we also practised our lockdown procedure. Once again, the children responded exceptionally well, following staff instructions promptly and demonstrating a calm and sensible approach throughout. The drill was completed successfully and provided a valuable opportunity for both children and staff to rehearse the procedures that help keep everyone safe.

Practising these procedures is an important part of keeping everyone safe. Regular drills help children become familiar with routines, reduce anxiety in the event of a real emergency, and ensure that staff and children can respond quickly, calmly and effectively should the need ever arise.

We hope this provides a clear understanding of the safety procedures we undertake in school and why they are such an important part of our safeguarding arrangements.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us to keep all children safe.