



John Clifford School  
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Headteacher: Janine Waring

19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

John Clifford School has recently been involved in a joint meeting of local schools, police and councillors to discuss concerns raised by schools regarding anti-social behaviour in our community. As schools, we are finding ourselves dealing with the repercussions of some of this activity that takes place in the evenings and weekends around Arc Cinema, though central Beeston and along the tram stops, particularly Chilwell Road. We have discussed strategies around working closely together to ensure that our community and surrounding neighbourhood is safe both in and out of school.

Broxtowe Borough Council and the Nottinghamshire Police have written statements about their work in this area, and these can be found below:

***From Inspector Mike EBBINS, Broxtowe District Commander, Notts Police***

*Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) has been a local crime priority for the Policing team in Beeston, Toton and Chilwell for over a year now and I wanted to take this opportunity to provide an update.*

*An ASB problem was first identified in Summer 2022 after a rise in reported issues on the tram and in town centre locations caused by young people. At this time my team focussed our work with partners to design this issue out of these locations, this worked but only resulted in dispersing the problem into other areas.*

*After consultation with the community, I launched OP POTASSIUM in the autumn of 2022. This was an overtime operation, paying for two officers, four hours an evening to focus entirely on our ASB hotspot locations and dispersal powers were utilised to reinforce the action. This operation continued into January 2023.*

*Whilst this operation succeeded in driving reports of ASB down, it also highlighted gaps in provisions for these young people. In short, regular contact with these young people had identified they were banned from existing youth provisions due to poor behaviour but as a result, were bored and had nowhere else to go other than our street corners. It was clear we were not going to Police our way out of this problem, and we needed support from partners.*



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*Broxtowe Borough Council sought funding for a diversionary scheme and in February 2023, Transform Training introduced a dedicated support programme for our first cohort of young people called POTASSIUM PLUS. This project provided activity, education and emotional support to a select group of young people. The Police enforcement budget was extended to ensure a continued visible support for the community and both our agencies worked closely together to share information and progress.*

*We are now a number of months down the line since the launch of OP POTASSIUM and there has been real progress with both the behaviour of our cohort and reported incidents of ASB in the area. Currently reported ASB in our area is 45% down on the previous year and most importantly of all, feedback from those residents who attended the original consultation has been positive with a noticeable improvement.*

*That said, it is important for me to recognise ASB has not stopped and those experiencing issues will not be comforted by me quoting statistics therefore I want to make a couple of appeals to you direct today;*

*Firstly, I want to encourage those experiencing issues to report them. It is vital we understand the extent of the issue in our area so I can resource appropriately, and I hope the above news has provided you with some reassurance that we will take the matter seriously and take appropriate action. If it is crime in action, then please call 101. If it is lower-level behaviour, then contact the Council ASB line and they will share reports with myself.*

*Secondly, the behaviour of our young people has not been acceptable in recent months, and we all have a collective responsibility to address this. Therefore, I need parents to take a moment to talk to their children about what acceptable behaviour looks like and the impact poor behaviour can have on our community. Then ensure you are asking those extra questions when your children are going out, where are they going and what are they doing?*

*Please be assured, my officers are actively engaged with your school, and we are all meeting regularly to discuss behaviour, share concerns and work through solutions. A roll out of class inputs is also scheduled over the next few months.*



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## Broxtowe Borough Council

Anti-Social Behaviour by young people will not be tolerated in Broxtowe and The Police, Borough Council, Schools, Retail and Landlords welcome reporting from residents and visitors to assist us in tackling incidents of anti-social behaviour and addressing the concerns of residents within our Borough.

To tackle anti-social behaviour effectively requires a positive and united approach from not just the Police, but other partner organisations which have a role to play, including Broxtowe Borough Council, Schools, Housing Associations and Private Landlords. Preventing anti-social behaviour is our primary focus as most cases can be resolved without enforcement however, when informal interventions prove ineffective, Broxtowe Borough Council's Legal Team may utilize a range of legal measures to protect vulnerable individuals and communities.

There are a range of tools and powers the Police and Local Authority have at their disposal to deal with young people which, where convicted may result in a criminal record. As parents it is important that you are aware of where your children are and what they are doing when they are out to prevent them from being drawn into ASB and enforcement action being taken against them. Reports of ASB may be in breach of tenancy agreements and as such, will be investigated and may result in possession proceedings.

Legislation grants "powers" to local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour as opposed to imposing "duties" and where the Council deems action necessary this needs to be proportionate, in addition not all issues qualify to be investigated as anti-social behaviour:

- If the behaviour is lawful, you will be informed that it cannot be addressed under anti-social behaviour legislation
- Reports related to isolated incidents or non-persistent occurrences will be advised that anti-social behaviour needs to be ongoing and persistent for action to be taken
- If the reported incident occurred more than a month ago and is not currently affecting you, agencies cannot lawfully take action
- Where behaviour from the typical daily activities of others are reported as ASB these will be addressed through referral to an appropriate health professional, such as your GP
- If the reported incident has already been addressed by another agency, further action is typically not possible
- Reports of behaviour that are prejudicial, discriminatory, malicious, unreasonable, vexatious, or frivolous will be investigated and it should be noted that evidence gathered during the investigation may lead to action against the reporting party

It's important to provide accurate evidence and witness information for your complaint to be progressed as action is dependent on the availability of up-to-date evidence to substantiate the offense and satisfy the courts. The Council is



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unable to accept anonymous reports of anti-social behaviour as this prevents the Council from gathering the necessary evidence.

ASB should be reported to the following agencies:

<b>Police</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>
Criminal Damage / Vandalism	Graffiti
Drug Misuse & Dealing	Rowdy Behaviour
Intimidating / Anti-Social Gatherings	Intimidation/Harassment
Rowdy Behaviour	Overgrown Gardens
Intimidation/Harassment	Fly Tipping
Prostitution	Litter
Kerb crawling	Fly Posting
Begging	Abandoned Cars
Aggressive Dogs	Dog Fouling
Street Drinking	Irresponsible Dog Ownership
Vehicle Nuisance	High Hedges
	Noise Nuisance
	Homelessness

Nottinghamshire Police Tel: 101

<https://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour/>

Broxtowe Borough Council Tel: 0115 9177777

Report anti-social behaviour online using our online form

Victim Support 0300 3031967 <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/get-help/request-support>

Regards

Janine Waring  
Headteacher