



School Crime Beat Protocol



A parent's guide to:

The Police Supporting Schools with Incidents of Crime and Disorder on School Grounds.

These rules can help your child to make the right choices in the future.

Working in Partnership with Schools.

For further information please visit the website: www.schoolbeat.org

The purpose of this leaflet is to:

- Help you, as a parent, understand how the Police and your school encourage and support good behaviour at school.
- To explain how the School Crime Beat Protocol which is an agreement between school and police avoids criminalising young people and can support your child.
- Tell you what happens if your child is involved in an incident at school and the School Community Police Officer (SCPO) is involved.
- To explain how the school and police can help stop your child entering the Criminal Justice System.

Introduction

- Learning to behave well is an important part of your child's education. Children with poor behaviour don't usually learn well. Children need to understand what is right or wrong in school and society.
- Poor behaviour in class can affect a child's learning and sometimes it can put other children and staff at risk.
- Your SCPO will become involved with incidents in the school when there is suspicion that a serious crime has occurred.
- Your SCPO will not generally deal with bullying and low level misbehaviour. This behaviour should be dealt with in line with school policy and procedures. The Police should be involved only when the school process has been completed.

'My child is in trouble at school. I think he/she has committed an offence. What should I expect?'

Your child will usually be dealt with through the schools behaviour, rewards and sanctions policy.

If you are unhappy with what the school has done, you have a right to appeal to:

- The Head teacher
- The Board of Governors
- The Local Authority (for your school area)

All schools have a legal responsibility for school discipline. After their investigations your school may refer the matter to your SCPO, if they think it is appropriate.



If you are concerned about your child's behaviour, always contact your school first.

When the SCPO is involved, they will decide if the incident your child is involved in can be dealt with by the School Crime Beat Protocol. If so, they will deal with the matter outside of the Criminal Justice System. To do so, SCPOs can use a restorative solution. Restorative solutions get your child to think about the consequences of their behaviour and how it has affected others. This is not a soft option. Schools have found this can help them solve behavioural problems as it supports both the victim and the wrongdoer.



If the incident cannot be dealt with by School Crime Beat, your child is likely to enter the criminal justice process. It is important that your child is dealt with fairly.

Remember the school and your SCPO are here to ensure your child gets the best learning experience possible. The rules are there to help your child be independent and think about the consequences of their behaviour.