

St. John's Church of England Middle School

6<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may be aware from reports in the local press a former member of St John's Middle School staff appeared in court, last Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, charged with a number of sexual offences committed against girls, none of whom were pupils at the School at the time. The defendant, former trainee ICT Technician Mr Nathan Stanley, was employed at the School for just 5 months during the 2016/17 academic year and pleaded guilty to all charges and was consequently sentenced to four years in prison.

We took immediate action when the School was alerted that a police investigation was underway concerning Mr Stanley, implementing our safeguarding procedures and working with the Police and the Local Authority. He was suspended immediately and escorted off the premises, pending investigation and his employment was subsequently terminated.

We are shocked and saddened that a former member of staff has behaved in such a way, all be it someone who was with us for a very short period of time. Our thoughts and sympathies are very much with those affected and their families. We have applauded them for having had the courage to speak out and supported the action that has resulted in Mr Stanley being brought to account for his actions.

St John's School takes its safeguarding responsibilities extremely seriously and our highest priority is reviewing our procedures regularly ensuring the continued safety and well-being of our pupils at all times. The incident has been externally scrutinised by Ofsted on two separate occasions and they were completely satisfied with the way the school had dealt with it.

As this was a Police investigation I have been unable to share any details with you until the matter was concluded. If parents have any concern then they can contact our Deputy Headteacher responsible for Safeguarding Mr Kevin Medway directly on <u>kmedway@st-johns-bromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk</u>

I am personally deeply dismayed that a former member of our staff should have acted in such a deplorable manner and I share the incident with you by way of reassurance that the School treats such matters with the utmost gravity.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. G. Roberts <u>Headteacher</u>

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