

Monday 28th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm sorry to inform you that a Year 10 student who had recently moved to Haverstock School has been arrested and charged following a stabbing of another Year 10 Camden student

in the Swiss Cottage area on Wednesday of last week. Whilst the victim fortunately survived despite being seriously injured, these terrible events have been most upsetting for our school community.

The Police have supported us this afternoon with an assembly to Year 10. Beyond the upsetting and tragic events, we are most concerned that several of our students were aware that a knife had been brought to school and chose not to inform us. The parents of these children have been made aware.

The Police will be working with these students as we seek to help them to understand the magnitude of their poor decision making. Parents are reminded that schools have the power to screen students for weapons, even if they do not suspect that they are carrying them, as part of our role in safeguarding all in our community. We have a metal detecting wand for this purpose and will continue to randomly screen students, as we have done before. Working with the Police and other outside agencies, we will consider carefully how we can do more to protect our whole school community from these kinds of risks.

We have stressed to students that it is the actions of the few, not that many, that are of concern. Please be aware that your child may be upset as a result of the events of last week and, of course, as shocked as we are that some in our community would make such poor decisions. We will also deliver similar messages to other year groups in the coming days.

The Police have signposted the [fearless.org](https://www.fearless.org) website as a safe anonymous space where they can report incidents of this nature without fear of being identified.

Please get in touch if you have any concerns or questions.

Yours faithfully,

James Hadley

Headteacher

24 Haverstock Hill, Chalk Farm, London, NW3 2BQ

Tel: 020 7267 0975

email: office@haverstock.camden.sch.uk

Headteacher: James Hadley

Deputy Head: Mark Mayne

