

25<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**Re: Anti-social behaviour in the community**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you regarding recent anti-social behaviour that has taken place on more than one occasion outside of school hours. Whilst Airedale Academy is not responsible for the behaviour of our students outside of school hours, staff do patrol the area at and around The Magnet regularly to ensure our students safely and sensibly make their way home.

As you may be aware, there has unfortunately been a recent rise in incidents of anti-social behaviour in and around the community. On several occasions, large groups of young people, including some of our students, have gathered at The Magnet after the end of the school day. This has resulted in a number of complaints being made to the Academy from the public and the shops regarding the intimidation and undesirable behaviour this results in. This behaviour has included the throwing of objects towards moving and parked vehicles, foul and abusive language, the spraying of water and drinks, littering, running out into the road and general verbal and physical intimidation of members of the public, which includes the elderly and parents with young children. Airedale Academy staff have also been targeted and injured by missiles thrown directly at them.

We have urged members of the public and local businesses to call the police should such behaviour happen again.

Whilst the vast majority of our students behave well and may find themselves in this situation by accident or through curiosity, there is sadly a minority who choose to engage in these anti-social offences. We are working with members of the public and local shops to review statements and CCTV and will take any appropriate and necessary action. The safety of all and the prevention of further issues is a priority for us and this anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated.

As parents and carers, we believe you have an important and valuable role to play and we ask for your support. We ask that you speak to your child about these issues, the effects of peer pressure and how 'just being there' when anti-social behaviour occurs, could result in them being swept up into a larger and very serious incident.

**Ambition • Bravery • Respect**

### What else you can do to help?

- Please make your child aware of how a large group of young people can be intimidating to members of the public, especially the vulnerable, who feel very apprehensive about approaching them or even passing them.
- Please reinforce the message that Airedale Academy students are expected to behave responsibly and with respect whilst wearing our uniform on their way home.
- Please ensure you know where your children are and what they are doing when out in the community.
- Please don't hesitate to call the police and report any anti-social behaviour you witness.

It is important and very much appreciated, that we work together to ensure that this is a safe and pleasant community for all.

As always, we thank you for your support.

With kind regards

*Tim-Tim Chambers*  
Vice Principal