

# SUPPORT YOUR



# Crime Support

PC Curt Driver

[cdriver@thomastallis.org.uk](mailto:cdriver@thomastallis.org.uk)

Tel: 07825042919

## Police Support at Tallis

At Tallis we benefit from having a designated Police officer on site this is important;

- to develop positive relationships between young people and the police
- to develop relationships between schools and the community
- to improve the way information is shared
- to implement early intervention to prevent young people from engaging in criminal activities
- to help identify and support 'at-risk' or vulnerable young people
- to provide a safe and secure environment at school

## Stop and search

Stop and search is the term used to describe the right of police officers to stop and search people to detect certain types of crime.

They can stop and speak to anyone at any time. But they should only stop people to search them if they have good reason to suspect a person is carrying:

- Drugs
- Weapons
- Stolen property
- Tools to be used to commit a crime
- Or if the person matches a description.

No-one should be stopped and searched simply on the basis of their age, race, colour or looks. The police can only usually stop and search people in a public place, and can only ask people to take off their coat and jacket and gloves.

They cannot ask people to take off any more clothing in public. Children aged 10-17 years old can be stopped and searched in the streets without an adult being present.

## Activities supported by police at school

- **Junior Police Cadets** - Takes place once a week, after school for years 10, 11, 12 and 13. Each week involves drill, learning about police activities and legislation. Team building tasks and gym activities. Once they are 14 they can start senior cadets and this can lead to joining the Police.
- **Workshops** - Young people can be referred to the School Police officer for talks around, knife crime, internet safety, restorative justice, joint enterprise and gangs.
- **Lessons** - Bespoke lesson plans for tutor groups. Young people benefit from talks, every year 7 class has an hour lesson around personal safety, internet safety and criminal activities that effect schools.
- **Investigate crime** - Most criminal activity at school will be dealt with in partnership with the school. The Home Office Guide Lines support this action and allow a great deal of discretion. All reported crimes will be logged on Police computers but the punishment is expected to be delivered by the school.
- **Prevent crime** - High visibility in and around the school. Patrols as the young people enter and leave school resulting in them feeling safer.

## Groups at risk

No parent wants their child to become a 'young offender'. But unfortunately, some young people do end up getting involved with crime or antisocial behaviour. The factors that cause young people to offend are often complex. Parents and the young person may feel blamed and stigmatised, although the factors contributing to the situation are often not their 'fault'. Young people who experience the following issues are more at risk of offending:

- Poor housing or living in a neighbourhood with poor services
- Financial hardship
- Difficulties achieving at or attending school
- Bullying (as a victim or perpetrator)
- Behavioural problems for example ADHD
- Special Educational Needs
- Violence or conflict within the family or social environment
- Drug or alcohol issues within the family or social environment
- Family or peer group attitudes which condone crime
- Abuse or trauma in childhood
- Spending time in local authority care

## How parents can help

### Positive relationship

Just one strong, positive child-carer relationship can offset many other problematic issues. As a parent you are the most important person to support them and set an example. Be clear about what is and isn't acceptable, and tell them why.

### Talk

If you think your young person is getting involved in crime, talk to them honestly about your worries, ask them what is going on, and if they won't talk to you, say you will be there when they are ready.

### Get Support for them

Do your best to get help and support for your young person contact school, there are many great services available at Tallis and staff that are ready to help.

### Get Support for you

If you are struggling to parent your young person and feel things are getting on top of you, ask for some support for yourself contact your GP or local counselling service. Tallis also run parenting courses.

### Attendance

The law puts the responsibility for children attending school squarely on the shoulders of parents. If your child has to miss school for legitimate reasons, make sure school are informed. If you suspect your young person maybe truanting contact school and seek help.