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Dear Parents and Carers

I have written to you before about students congregating at the Dover shops after school. It has come to our attention that a number of young people believed to be members of gangs or involved in crime are again using the Dover as a point to meet. Their presence puts all students at risk; either by direct association or just by being there. We have told the police of our concerns, but we have no jurisdiction to remove these individuals.

We have a paramount duty to keep our students safe. Therefore, now all Tallis students must leave the Dover shops area and Susan Road by 4.00 pm. This includes students waiting for buses. Students catching the 132 or 286 should use Stop G on Kidbrooke Way.

Tallis staff will ensure the area is clear at 4.00 pm. Students who are then found at the Dover will be detained after school the following day until 4.00 pm and parents will be informed. Sanctions will escalate for repeat occurrences. May I remind you that while we will try our best to make this area safe and protect the good name of the school we have no duty or responsibility to police this area after school hours, and we cannot be responsible for your child's activities long after school closes.

I am confident that you understand how important it is to protect children from the influence and impact of criminal and anti-social behaviour. We hope that you will encourage your child to make use of our after school clubs and return home safely after school without visiting the Dover shops.

If you have any concerns about your child and the individuals they are associating with, I would encourage you to contact our experienced safeguarding leads (Ms Kamei fkamei@thomastallis.org.uk and Ms Brown jbrown@thomastallis.org.uk) who will be able to offer you support and guidance.

If you have any questions or thoughts about the decision we have made please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CAROLYN ROBERTS', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carolyn Roberts
Head