

Hawthorn Community Primary School

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13th October, 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been informed today of a few schools in Northamptonshire that have had serious safeguarding concerns this week following a number of incidents when children have been walking home from school alone.

On a number of occasions it has been reported that a man in a white van has stopped his van and has 'offered' children a lift home. We have been told that these incidents have occurred in Great Doddington and also in Burton Latimer, with the description of the van and the man involved the same.

The incidents have been reported to the police.

We have spoken to the children in years 5 and 6 who may walk home from school unaccompanied by a parent and have warned them about being careful when out and about on their own and what action they should take if they were concerned for their safety. But we would ask that you also talk to your own children about 'stranger danger' to reinforce this message.

Description

White van

White male, bald head, clean shaven, aged 30-40, and 'fattish'.

Did not speak good English

Wearing a black top

Had a large brown dog in the passenger seat

We strongly advise that children do not walk alone and stay with a friend. If they are approached they should get away from the situation, stay away from any vehicle, contact an adult and contact the police immediately.

We do not wish to alarm parents or the children, but feel that we need to make you aware of what has been reported to us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Clubley', written in a cursive style.

Julie Clubley, Headteacher