

13th January 2022
(JD/KL)



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Dear Parent/Carer

Emergency Fire Evacuation

I write to update you about yesterday's fire evacuation.

I am pleased to say that further to my appeal for information yesterday, we have been able to establish for certain that this activation was deliberate and to identify the pupil responsible, who is now subject to a formal exclusion.

Since I took over as headteacher of Breadalbane Academy in 2015 there have been just two activations that we have established with certainty were malicious, and one further where it appeared possible a safety glass had been smashed deliberately. All other activations have been accidental.

Nevertheless, any malicious activations are of considerable concern to the school: in automatically requiring the attendance of a fire crew, they run the risk of preventing the timely arrival of firefighters at genuine fires and so potentially endanger lives. I need not add that they also result in enormous disruption to learning.

As well as requesting a face-to-face meeting between a firefighter and yesterday's culprit, we have also invited the fire service to speak to all our secondary pupils about the critical role they play and the huge impact that false alarms have on their delivery of service.

I apologise for writing to you again about this so soon, but I wanted to emphasise how seriously the school takes this matter. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those pupils who came forward today to support the school in its investigation.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JD'.

John G Devine
Headteacher

