

28 November 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Successful visit from K9 Deployment

I am writing to inform you that today we were fortunate enough to have a visit from K9 Deployment and one of their drug search dogs, Bruce. All search dogs and their handlers from K9 Deployment are trained and accredited to Association of Chief Police Officer (ACPO) standards. We have had the support of Thames Valley Police and our local police community support team with this initiative. I am also pleased that a number of parents have contacted the school in support of this initiative.

I am pleased to report that following the extensive 4 hour search, which included visiting all areas of the school, no drugs were found. The exercise was incredibly valuable and shows that we are being as proactive as we can on this issue. Whilst this is pleasing and reassuring, we are fully committed to continuing to be vigilant and proactive in maintaining a drug free site which also includes an in depth PSHE programme which educates students about making positive decisions in relation to drugs.

Given how useful this was I will be looking at inviting K9 Deployment back to school in the future. Maiden Erlegh School prides itself on its approach to safeguarding and protecting our young people and their families. Should you wish to read further about the current drug concerns for young people, and the government approach to protecting young people and vulnerable adults, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines>.

In addition, the National Crime Agency explains statistics surrounding County Lines:

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/drug-trafficking/county-lines>

Thank you for your support with this matter.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Gibson
Headteacher