



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

## SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

MSc (Educational Leadership), BA (Economics)

📍 Silverdale Road, Earley,  
Reading, RG6 7HS

☎ 0118 926 2467

✉ [office@maidenerleghschool.co.uk](mailto:office@maidenerleghschool.co.uk)

🌐 [www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk](http://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk)

28 March 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Fire Evacuations

You may be aware that we have had a number of fire evacuations at school recently. In most of these cases the alarm was set off deliberately by students. When a fire alarm is triggered, it is not only the entire school population that is impacted, but a fully staffed fire engine is automatically dispatched to us. The fire officers often have to come to our site and carry out an inspection to satisfy themselves that there is no fire; the time and resource that is wasted is enormous and they are potentially diverted from other 'real' incidents.

Parents and students should be aware that we consider this as a Level 4 behaviour incident (as per our Behaviour Policy) and are very likely to exclude any student deliberately setting off a fire alarm. In addition, we will pass on any costs (levied by the fire service) or fines incurred to them and/or the parents. By law, individuals maliciously making false calls to the emergency services can be taken to court and fined up to £2500.

In order to safeguard the quality of education, the school also reserves the right to hold all students back for 15 minutes at the end of a day to make up the learning time lost due to an evacuation. I understand this may be inconvenient but my first consideration is that educationally our students should not be disadvantaged by the actions of a tiny minority.

We are almost always able to identify the culprits by CCTV and with the help of other students who, like us, find this behaviour totally unacceptable. Please could I ask you to discuss this matter with your child. If they are able to proffer any information then please contact the school.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson  
Headteacher