

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you with regards to the ICE CATS Program... Your school has decided to use the program to help support staff and children in school to learn how to respond to evacuation and lockdown procedures. These are things that new legislation requires schools should be planning for and implementing...

I am a Liverpool resident with children of my own, my youngest being 10YRS of age. I have been in school governance for sixteen years and I am fortunate to have a background in security and education. I have use my experience to create a simple 30minute session that is a fun and active lesson, it works with curriculum and teaches children to respond to guidance in a worst case scenario situation.

Whilst as a parent myself, I understand the dangers we face in modern society and the very real threat we are under. I acknowledge the chance of this happening here in school is very slim, but ... What If....!!! By teaching young children and adults to respond, with simple commands and signals they will become second nature and may very well save lives. They are a life skill that can be used in any environment outside school, but also in any country you may visit. \* I would like to stress that at no point are guns, knives, bombs or terrorism mentioned in the training with children unless it is age appropriate. But should children have questions about their safety they will be answered tactfully or privately with teachers and parents.

As a parent I entrust the safety of my children to the school they are assigned and believe that school is an extension of family that they will care for my children with the same care and diligence I would myself...

I welcome any questions and feedback...

I understand parents and care givers feel unsure of this situation and guidelines currently available and I believe that transparency of the program is of the utmost importance, I will be available at school on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00-10.00am you can also contact me anytime by phone, messenger or email.

Kindest regards

Jo Carter Executive Director

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