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18 September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We're sorry to write about dangers so soon but we remain concerned about the safety of the Dover Shops area.

There are a number of non-Tallis young people believed to be members of gangs or involved in crime, who use the Dover Shops as a meeting point. Their presence puts all our students at risk.

In addition, some Tallis students who congregate at the Dover Shops don't always behave as we would like and our reputation with local residents can be put at risk too. As a school that cares about its community, we need to think about that as well.

We are doing two things about these concerns. We are banning some Tallis students from the Dover Shops area entirely, including during the day. We are also imposing a **4 p.m. curfew on all Tallis students, including sixth form students**, who must leave the Dover shops area and Susan Road by 4.00 pm. This includes students waiting for buses. Students catching the 132 or 286 should use Stop J on Kidbrooke Way.

Tallis staff will ensure the area is clear at 4.00 pm. Students who are found thereafter at the Dover will be detained after school the following day until 4.00 pm and parents will be informed. Sanctions will escalate for repeat occurrences.

While we will try our best to make this area safe and protect the good name of the school we have no duty or responsibility to police this area after school hours, and we cannot be responsible for your child's activities long after school closes.

We are confident that you understand how important it is to protect students from the influence and impact of criminal and anti-social behaviour, and to maintain our good standing in the local community.

We want sixth form students to be able to study on site until 5.30 p.m., and so we hope that you will encourage your child to return home safely after school without visiting the Dover shops.

If you have any concerns about your child and individuals with whom they associate, I would encourage you to contact our experienced safeguarding leads (Ms Kamei fkamei@thomastallis.org.uk and Ms Brown jbrown@thomastallis.org.uk). They can offer you support and guidance. If you have any questions or thoughts about this please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Bradshaw
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Thomas Tallis School

Shaun Brown
Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)
Thomas Tallis School