

20 September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to inform you that in assemblies next week (commencing Monday 25th September), we will be talking to the students about our plan to carry out an 'invacuation' rehearsal during the week commencing 2nd October.

An invacuation takes place when people are moved to a safe part of a building during an emergency, as opposed to leaving the building. Sometimes, invacuations are referred to as 'lockdowns'. In the event of an actual emergency, we would use the term 'lockdown' in our communication with you.

Some young people may have already participated in a rehearsal like this when they were in their Primary school. AGS students will be provided with carefully worded guidance during next week's assembly, and staff will support them through the rehearsal/walk-through which should take approximately 20 minutes. We will also be able to answer any questions they may have about any of this.

We will communicate with parents on the day of the rehearsal to reassure you that a rehearsal is taking place.

Being prepared for an invacuation, in the highly unlikely event that one will be needed in the future, is regarded as very good practice for all schools.

In addition to the invacuation rehearsal, we will also be undertaking the statutory rehearsal of an evacuation at some point during the next few weeks. We do these periodically to check our procedures and to better ensure staff and students are able to leave the buildings safely in the event of an emergency. We will be doing a walk-through of the evacuation procedures with our new Year 7 prior to the full school rehearsal.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of the above, your child's Pastoral Manager will be happy to offer help and support in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Kelly
Headteacher