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The Queen Elizabeth School



*Educating our children for lifelong learning, inspiring young minds and hearts to succeed and be active contributors within our global community.*

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**Principal: Krista Warren**

**Office Administrator: Jayanna Wood**

November 3, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Today a parent reported seeing a suspicious vehicle near the school videotaping students being dropped off. Our community OPP detachment has been informed and is investigating the situation. All staff have been informed and will be extra vigilant while they are monitoring students outside. At this time, there is no immediate threat to student safety but we wanted our parents and guardians to be aware of the incident.

Please use this as an opportunity to discuss safety measures with your child(ren). Here are some suggested topics to discuss at home.

**Teach your child to memorize important information**

Have your child memorize important information such as their home address and family phone numbers – their parents' work numbers, home numbers, cell phone or the number of a trusted neighbour. Go over these on a regular basis so they know who they should call if they find themselves lost or in need of help.

**Talk about what a stranger is**

Reinforce for your child that strangers come in all shapes and sizes – even those who act friendly. For younger children, start by telling them who is not a stranger first and then explain that everyone else is a stranger. If a stranger ever attempts to grab them against their will, they should run or throw a tantrum: kick, bite and scratch, scream, scatter their books and repeatedly yell "This is not my mother/father" to get noticed.

**Teach your child what to do if a car approaches**

Adults rarely go to a child to ask for directions or to seek help. Teach your child to never approach a stranger's car and to move away from a car that pulls up beside them. If they think they are being followed, they should run to the nearest store, post office or other public space, or a trusted friend or neighbour's home and ask for help.

**Report Incidents**

Tell your child to report any such incidents to you and then notify police. Instill in your children that 911 is the number to call if they feel they are in danger. If the incident happens at or on their way to school, they should report the incident to the first adult they see.

Should you see anything suspicious around the school or have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call me directly. The safety and well-being of our students is always a priority.

Sincerely,  
Krista Warren  
The Queen Elizabeth School  
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