Shropshire Hills Federation

Our schools are a *Safer School*

West Mercia Police and Shropshire Council support our schools with the *Safer School* initiative. Our schools are *Safer School* accredited and we are proud of our *Safer School* signs and certificates. The accreditation is reviewed every two years.

The initiative is a holistic, practical and realistic approach to school security and personal safety. It gives our schools a clear focus on the subject and turns a negative subject into a positive one. It sets a minimum standard for school security.

The essential elements of the *Safer School* process include: -

- Implementing a security policy that the governors have adopted.
- Consulting parents/carers and pupils for their views and updating them on any progress.
- Publicity of *Safer Schools* to school staff, pupils, school neighbours, parents/carers, and prospective parents/carers.
- Establishing a *Safer School* group. This *Safer School* group is a partnership of school stakeholders – Headteacher/Deputy, staff, governors, parents, pupils, neighbours, Shropshire Council and West Mercia Police.
- Regularly reviewing and implementing good practice and essential security/safety measures for staff, pupils, the site and assets.
- Educating pupils through the Personal, Social, Health and Economic curriculum programme or the *Safer School* folder.
- A daily procedure for recording incidents should they occur i.e. trespass, burglary, theft, anti-social behaviour, vandalism, arson, suspicious activity etc., both during school hours and out-of hours.
- Solving real problems rather than perceived problems. Prioritising work (if any) and reviewing action.
- If there are security issues i.e., vandalism, anti-social behaviour etc., the intention of the initiative is to reduce/eliminate the issues.