



The de Ferrers Academy Safety Advice when travelling to and from the Academy during the winter months

With the clocks about to go back and with the potential for our students to be arriving and leaving the Academy in darkness, it is probably a good opportunity to remind them of how to keep safe whilst travelling to and from the Academy:

- Take extra care and time when crossing the roads surrounding the Academy: Harehedge Lane, Rolleston Road, St Mary's Drive and Bitham Lane. **ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS** use the crossing patrols and the Zebra crossings.
- Do not use your phones whilst crossing the roads. Always dismount from your bike when crossing the road.
- If you ride a bike to the Academy always make sure that your bike is fitted with lights and reflectors. Always wear a helmet and where possible reflective clothing.
- Do not engage in conversations with strangers when leaving or entering the Academy gates.
- If you see anyone behaving suspiciously then, if appropriate, please return to the Academy immediately and report it or contact the police.
- Where possible always ensure that you are walking to and from the Academy with other students and not on your own.
- When arranging to be collected by family members, make sure that they know which campus you want to be collected from and at what time.
- Never accept a lift from a stranger, no matter how bad the weather.
- Remember your phone is probably the most expensive personal possession that you are carrying around with you. If you are using your phone in the darkness, it is more visible to would be thieves than it is during the summer months. Be careful.
- If you don't already know it, make sure you know your home phone number and address.
- If you stop at a friend's house on the way home, always make sure that your parents or carers know where you are.
- If you have arranged to be collected from outside the campus of either Trent or Dove and your lift does not turn up, then please return to wait in the Academy, particularly if the weather is inclement. You can always contact your lift from the safety of the reception areas in both campuses.

Unfortunately, the world in which we live is not always a safe one. It is important to always be aware of your surroundings and to remember that if it doesn't feel safe, it probably isn't, so always act on the side of caution.