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CEO : Mrs Kate Carter BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH  
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 Haymoor Junior School Headteacher: Miss Lucy Waterhouse BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

TEACH Trust Poole

Trust Excellence Aspiration Collaboration Honesty

Article 28: Children have a right to a primary education.

16<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

From September 2019, the Department for Education require all schools to have additional safety procedures in place, which must be practised with all children annually. This procedure is called 'Lockdown.' In the same way that schools have to practise fire evacuations each term, we are also expected to practise lockdown drills at least once a year.

In the week of our lockdown drill, week beginning Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026, our staff will carefully and sensitively explain the procedure to our children. We have planned a brief lesson to help prepare our children for these drills, so that they can be undertaken effectively but without scaring them. Staff will reassure children during and after the drill and will emphasise that this is similar to a fire drill but that for Lockdown, we don't leave the school buildings.

I would invite parents and carers to discuss the process and reasons for Lockdown procedures in an open, supportive manner with their children. I must also emphasise that we are required, by law, to practise Lockdown, so that in the very unlikely event of such a situation occurring, our children and staff are fully prepared. There will be absolutely no mention of weapons, terrorists or similar language with children in our preparations for Lockdown, unless of course, a child directly asks us questions using this vocabulary. If this were to occur then the question will be dealt with in a sensitive manner in the same way we would address other such questions at other times.

If you or your child/children have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your support with this matter, and please rest assured that we will do everything we can to handle this activity with the appropriate sensitivity and care.

Yours faithfully

*Clare Tantrum*

Clare Tantrum  
 Headteacher



Haymoor Junior School



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