

26 May 2021

Staying safe in Bayside

Over the past few weeks, the school has received a number of queries from parents raising concerns about the recent spate of violent attacks around the Bayside area and asking advice on how their sons can best avoid these situations. As part of our commitment to educate and keep our boys safe, here are a few tips to help you start a conversation on safety with your son.

Avoid parks and railway stations at night

Most of the violent attacks occur after dark around these areas. If your son is out with friends, speak to him about how he is going to get home. Whilst railway stations are patrolled by PSOs, the areas surrounding them are not, and parks are renowned for gangs of youths congregating, drinking and looking for trouble. Come up with a contingency plan, such as picking your son up or organising alternative means of transport for him.

Avoid congregating in large groups in public

Large groups attract the attention of other large groups, words get said and violence can erupt very quickly. Advise your son to avoid congregating with a large group of his friends in public places. There are gangs in Bayside that have getting into a fight as their number one priority and they will see another large group as the perfect target. That being said, you also don't want your son walking around alone at night.

Know where your son is when he is not at home

A really good way of doing this is to offer to drop him off and pick him up from wherever he wants to go. I understand this could be a burden doing this every week, but you can perhaps also arrange with other parents whose son is attending the same venue to pick up a few friends as well and set up a reciprocal arrangement.

These safety tips and issues around safe partying will also be addressed with the boys after exams. In the meantime, please keep an open dialogue with your sons around these issues.

For further advice or information, please contact me at jbain@brightongrammar.vic.edu.au

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School Marshal