

St Leonard's Catholic Primary School

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26th January, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

In recent months there has been an increasing number of incidents in school regarding deliberate vandalization of pupil toilets. This has ranged from toilet cubicle doors being 'ripped off' their hinges to blockages that result in flooding or the temporary closure of the facilities for pupils – the most recent incident resulting in extreme measures being required to resolve the situation and the school needing to be evacuated briefly. The repairing of these incidents is proving very costly and, to date, has been covered by school. Usually we do find out who has committed the vandalism and parents are informed.

We know that these incidents are the result of children watching similar activities on social media sites, such as 'Tik Tok' and YouTube, but the actions are totally unacceptable. We do take every opportunity to prevent this and are having to go to extreme lengths, such as toilet monitors and checking toilets after children have used them. As you can imagine, this takes time that could be better utilised!

Moving forward, if any child is found to have cause damage to any part of the school property, then the School Behaviour Policy will be implemented around report cards, suspensions or, for persistent offenders, permanent exclusion.

While we know this is the actions of a significant minority of pupils, can I please ask that you take the time to speak to your child about the seriousness of damaging any property belonging to others and potential consequences.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Dionne Dunn Headteacher