



19 December 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

I would like to thank you for your support today in the situation where we had to close the school. As you know your child's safety is our uppermost priority at all times. The closure today was as a result of a bomb hoax that was received by school just after nine o'clock. The police were at the school very quickly and the building evacuated immediately.

The officers in charge led the incident and felt it was necessary to wait for Police dogs to arrive to safely sweep the school. The wait for the dogs who travelled from near Ripon to our school was substantial and the weather extremely cold. Whilst we were able to move two year groups to the Table Tennis Centre, there was no inside space for the remainder of the school. As such, we made the very difficult decision to send the pupils home directly so that they could remain warm. In addition to this, since the school had been closed from the start of the day, there would not have been any facilities for lunchtime dining, which it is our obligation to provide.

All arrangements for safe travel and contacting parents were made, buses travelled back to school to collect pupils, a notice was placed on the website and a text sent.

The school building was deemed safe just after eleven thirty and we made provision for any child unable to return home to remain on site.

Unfortunately, due to this hoax, students were unable to leave on time for the rehearsal for the Carol Concert and so we took the difficult decision to cancel the concert. We hope to reorganise a concert for the new year.

I hope you appreciate that today has been a very unusual situation and it was a very difficult decision to make to close the school. Once again I would like to thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma Robins', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Emma Robins
Headteacher