

Appendix C

I write this e mail to you with concerns of the behaviour I often witness whilst instrumental teaching in the down stairs practise rooms at ECS. In particular the incident on the 20th of October, which was very distressing for me and my pupils. This incident carried on for most of the day and in that period I taught children from year 3 and up. Through out the day I heard very fierce arguments happening outside my window, screaming and shouting very inappropriate words (much swearing and threatening to each other. Also bottles broken and it sounded like they were brandishing the broken bottle to each other or someone. I must stress that this is not the first time I have heard distressing and inappropriate behaviour through to my teaching room (but perhaps not quite to this extent before). In fact, I have taken in recent to not opening the windows in fear something may happen to a pupil or myself. I have had persons putting their hand up through the window, slam the window shut, try and communicate inappropriately through the window, smoking directly outside, and I have heard people obviously taking drugs just outside the window. I do feel this is definitely a safeguarding issue and one that should not be ignored. As a mother and parent myself, I would be horrified if my children had to experience some of the unsociable behaviour outside my window, which I can still hear when the window is shut.

I did feel quite anxious after the incident on Friday the 20th, and it does leave me feeling quite nervous when teaching in case we have an other incident.

Unfortunately it is not an unusual to hear things like this when I am teaching, I quite often hear very inappropriate conversations just outside my teaching room, sometimes this is so loud I can still hear this with the windows shut. I often have to respond to my pupils with reassuring words or tell them to try and ignore it. This is not acceptable, we have a duty of care for these children, and I feel quite strongly we need to shield them from such behaviour.

I hope that you may consider measures to discourage people from congregating outside our building, and certainly better windows for soundproofing and safety.

Yours sincerely

Lucy Cordon