

Victoria Police letter to school communities

Victoria Police concerns around harm occurring to young people

Dear Parents/Carers of Students (Years 7-12),

I am writing to inform you that we have received information from Victoria Police about local 'pop-up' parties and social gatherings being organised via social media which are unsafe for the young people attending.

These parties are being hosted in private homes, abandoned buildings and public halls across south eastern and eastern Melbourne.

Victoria Police acknowledges that many young people are also attending safe parties.

However, Victoria Police has made a number of recommendations to ensure young people can safely attend local gatherings:

- Talk to your children and be mindful of where they are;
- Be vigilant around monitoring all of your child's social media accounts (consider there may be multiple accounts) and look online at any events your child wants to attend;
- Investigate any party your child is attending, and be satisfied of where your child is and who they are with. If a party location is unknown one or two weeks prior to a party date, this may be of concern.
- Underage alcohol drinking and drug use is not recommended.
- Students with any wellbeing concerns or issues they are encouraged to speak to our wellbeing officer.

If you have any information that may assist police, phone Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

If you are concerned that your child has been the victim of a sexual assault and may require support, please contact Centre Against Sexual Assault on 1800 806 292.