

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteachers have been contacted by Hampshire Police following a number of reports the police have received recently of a suspicious man in vehicle approaching children either on their way to school or on their way home.

The incidents have been reported between November 17 and November 25 and each time the child has described that a man in a car has approached them as they have been walking, and asked them if they wanted a lift, or tried to engage in conversation with them.

Incidents have occurred on:

Newtown Road, Southampton,

Satchell Lane, Hamble-Le-Rice

Wildern Lane, Hedge End

Lower Northam Road, Hedge End

Hamble Lane, Bursledon

Ashley Crescent, Southampton

Sholing Road, Southampton

Middle Road, Southampton

Both boys and girls have been approached. On each occasion the child approached did the right thing by reporting it to an adult. Incidents have occurred in the morning before school, or on their way home after school. No child has got into a car or been hurt in anyway.

Officers from both Southampton and Eastleigh neighbourhood teams are proactively investigating these incidents. Not every report has been the same and therefore the police are looking at all lines of enquiry to identify similarities in the descriptions of the car and man that have been reported.

I understand that these kind of incidents are very concerning for you and your children. It is important to stay alert but not alarmed, remind children that they should not get into anyone's car, or go with anyone they do not know, and to report incidents of this kind to the police as soon as they happen.

Please be extra vigilant at this time.

Yours sincerely