



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

Northern Lights Learning Trust



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HJO / DAI

14th July 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

Would it be possible if you could mention to your child / children about the importance of using the Tyne and Wear Metro safely over the summer holiday.

In recent months, there have been multiple incidents of children and teenagers messing around on the Tyne and Wear Metro and ignoring the level crossings. The railway is not a playground, and we need to treat it with the respect it deserves.

The summer holiday period is traditionally a time when Metro can see a rise in instances of trespass and Anti-Social Behaviour on the system. I would like to warn the children about the dangers of venturing on to the Metro tracks - what may seem like harmless fun is in fact very serious, against the law and could result in life changing injuries or even death.

The railway is full of both obvious and hidden dangers. Children often don't see the dangers that surround the railway, the reality is a risk of being hit by 1,500 volts of electricity. The electricity on the railway is always on and always dangerous. Metro trains travel at speeds of up to 50mph and mainline trains much faster - and a train cannot swerve to miss someone in its path, so even if a driver can see your child, they cannot stop in time and they cannot change direction.

It is vital we educate young people of the importance of railway safety and how to act responsibly whilst they are using public transport.

Yours Sincerely

David Airey

Mr. D. Airey

Headteacher

Venerable Bede CE Academy



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