



A parent's guide to the

School Crime Beat Protocol

The aim of this leaflet is to help you understand how the Police support schools with incidents of crime between pupils on school premises, during school hours.

SchoolBeat.cymru



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

**For further information and advice for parents and pupils, visit the SchoolBeat website:
www.SchoolBeat.cymru**



Did you know a School Community Police Officer (SCPO) sometimes known as a SchoolBeat Officer works in every school in Wales? SchoolBeat officers support the school to keep pupils safe by delivering crime prevention lessons and offering support to the schools to deal with serious incidents.

The purpose of this leaflet is to:

- Help you understand how the Police and your school work in partnership.**
- Explain that the School Crime Beat Protocol is the agreement between the school and the Police which aims to prevent children from entering the Criminal Justice System (CJS) and having a criminal record.**
- Tell you what to expect if the SchoolBeat officer is involved with your child.**

Your SchoolBeat officer will not generally deal with bullying and low level incidents. This behaviour should be dealt with by the school. Every school will have policies and procedures to follow which you can ask to see.

My child
is in trouble
at school

I think
my child is
a victim at
school

I think
my child has
committed an
offence on school
premises.
What should
I expect?

**IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR CHILD,
ALWAYS CONTACT THE SCHOOL FIRST.**

Your school will conduct an investigation into the incident, speaking to all witnesses. Your child will usually be dealt with through the schools' policies and the SchoolBeat officer may be involved at any point.

If you are unhappy with what the school has done, you have a right to appeal to:

- The Headteacher
- The Board of Governors
- The Local Authority (for your school area)

THE SCHOOL'S RESPONSE:

1. Incident investigated through school process
2. School procedures exhausted
3. School may involve the SchoolBeat officer
4. SchoolBeat officer to assess case under School Crime Beat

If the school has not already done so, you may ask the school to involve the SchoolBeat officer to help.

PHONING THE POLICE

Before phoning 101, have you:

- 1. spoken to the school?**
- 2. given the school time to investigate?**

You have the right to contact the Police directly.

When you phone the 101 service, the call handler will listen and record the details of your conversation and enter these details on the Police system.

Your SchoolBeat officer may be best placed to help.

When the SchoolBeat officer is involved, they will decide if an incident can be dealt with by the School Crime Beat Protocol. If so, they will deal with the matter outside of the Criminal Justice System if possible. To do so, SchoolBeat officer can use a 'Restorative Solution', which gets the wrongdoer to take responsibility for their actions and then to make amends. This can help repair the harm and supports both the victim and the wrongdoer.

POLICE RESPONSE

- 1. Incident assessed by SchoolBeat officer**
- 2. A Police incident recorded**
- 3. Investigation carried out**
- 4. Outcome - CJS, or School Crimebeat**
- 5. Victim Support**

If the incident cannot be dealt with by the SchoolBeat officer, the Police will investigate further. There are a number of possible outcomes which can be utilized to ensure a positive resolution for both parties.