

# **Lost and Stolen Property**

## **Liability and Lost Property**

Pupils and their parents are responsible for their own personal property and possessions while on school premises or engaged in school activities. The school cannot accept liability for loss of or damage to such property and possessions.

### **High Value Items**

We strongly discourage pupils from bringing high value (monetary) or invaluable (sentimental) items to school. If these items are brought to school it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that they are kept safe. The school will not accept any responsibility for their recovery or replacement in the case of loss, theft or damage.

#### **Lost Property**

We encourage all children to take responsibility for their own possessions. However, it is important to report any loss to the class teacher with a description (colour, make, etc.) of the lost item so that it can be traced more easily.

Classrooms, cloakrooms and changing areas will then be searched – where items are named, it is easier to return them to their owner.

If your child inadvertently brings home an item that is not their own, please return it to the School Office as soon as possible so that it can be returned to its owner.

## **Theft**

If theft is suspected, the procedure should be followed as soon as possible after the loss. Report the loss to the class teacher with a description of the item and when it was last seen.

Your child will be asked to check the relevant classrooms, all cloakrooms and changing areas. The lost property box should then be checked.

If the property cannot be found and theft is suspected, all efforts will be made to discover the identity of the thief. This is however, a very difficult action to prove and we may be unsuccessful in identifying the culprit.

#### Every Reasonable Effort will be made to Retrieve Property

Whilst every effort is made to recover lost or stolen property, the school does not accept responsibility for replacement costs.

The majority of items reported lost or stolen are usually misplaced and are often found in the changing rooms, a classroom used earlier in the day or the playground. Please help us by encouraging your child to make sure they have all their belongings with them when leaving one of these areas.