

KH/TM/SMARTResponse

22nd June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

SMART Response Drill

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping everyone in our school community safe, we will be carrying out a Level 4 SMART Response drill during the Summer Term. This is a routine safety exercise designed to help ensure that staff and pupils know what to do in the event of any critical incident that may affect the school community.

Level 4 SMART Response is our term for what others might refer to as 'full lockdowns'. We hope that we will never need a 'full lockdown' but it is essential that we prepare for whatever could happen, even if the chances are very remote.

No one panics when they hear the words 'fire drill'. We all had to do them when we were children at school and many of us will do them in our workplaces, so they feel normal to us. But a lockdown drill feels less familiar and can therefore be worrying.

But we must practise going into lockdown just in case it is ever needed. Be assured that the drill will be carefully managed by staff and carried out in a calm and supportive manner, with minimal disruption to learning.

You may be interested to know more about what Matrix has been doing to support other schools up and down the country. For the last two years, we have been leading the way in helping school leaders rethink their approaches to lockdown, so they don't cause unnecessary concern. So far, we have helped more than 400 schools. You can find out more about this here: <https://www.matrixacademytrust.co.uk/smartresponse/>

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe environment for all members of our school community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Hibbs'.

Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher



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Matrix
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