

7 May 2025



UXBRIDGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

Dear parent/guardian

### **Emergency Drills**

I am sure many of you are aware Martyn's Law came into force on the 3 April and requires all schools with more than 250 pupils to develop effective procedures to keep staff and pupils safe in an emergency situation. Most notable is the requirement to have a "Shelter-in / Lockdown" capability. I explained in my VLOG on 25<sup>th</sup> April that there would be an exercise this half term.

As with our Fire Evacuation Drill, we want all pupils to know how we will keep them safe in the unlikely event of an incident and have been working on a simple procedure that we plan to regularly rehearse in the future.

On Friday 2 May we ran an (un-announced) drill and scenario to see how well we could notify staff and pupils of an incident, as well as seeing how well our staff understood their role in following the shelter in procedure to make students in their class secure from an onsite intruder. The drill and scenario were organised by Aldbury International, which is a company who specialise in supporting organisations with being prepared for critical incidents.

This is the first time we have tested our systems in a live scenario, and we will be providing students and staff with more detailed feedback on how to shelter in successfully. The overall objective is to make 1350 students and 130 staff disappear to an onsite intruder by hiding, staying silent and preventing entry where staff and students are seeking safety. This is challenging, but achievable if everyone understands their responsibility in keeping the whole community as safe as possible.

Please do read the full guidance for Standard Tier premises Martyn Laws which explains our obligations and why the Government feels these measures are important in light of recent tragic national events.

<https://homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2025/04/03/martyns-law-factsheet/>

Yours sincerely

*L Seymour*

**Louisa Seymour (Ms)  
Principal**

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