



Student Screening: Frequently Asked Questions

Why did they come to this class?

Screenings are random. We try to visit classes from a variety of year groups.

What are they looking for?

The wands are metal detectors and they are used to search for any metal objects. That is why you are first asked to remove all metal items, such as keys and pencil tins, from your bag and pockets.

Do they think someone in this class/school has got a weapon?

No.

What is the difference between a search and a screening?

A search is when someone gets all of your belongings out of your bag and pockets to check through them all. A screening is when a metal detector is passed over you and your bag to check for any metal items.

Are the police allowed to screen us?

The police are allowed to use a wand to screen any group of students. A screening means that the wand is passed over you and your belongings.

Are the police allowed to search us?

The police can search individual students in certain circumstances.

Are teachers allowed to screen us?

Yes. The law allows teachers to use a metal detector to screen students even if they don't think the student has anything prohibited on them. Students cannot refuse to be screened. If they do they are not allowed on school site.

Are teachers allowed to search us?

Teachers can search for anything which could be dangerous, which is believed could be used to commit a criminal offence or any items prohibited by the school rules. In this school that would always be done KSLs, SAFE workers or members of the SLT. Items which are banned in school include:

- Knives and weapons - Any article likely to be used to commit an offence, cause personal injury or damage to property
- Alcohol
- Drugs and or associated paraphernalia
- Stolen items
- Tobacco and cigarette papers
- Fireworks
- Pornographic images
- Laser pens
- Shisha pens
- Fizzy drinks
- Aerosol cans / sprays
- Glass bottles (this includes scents – i.e. perfumes & colognes)
- Mobile phones which have not been turned off

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What if something is found?

Any banned or questionable items that are found on a student will be confiscated and disposed appropriately. In the case of mobile devices and scents, parents will have to collect these from the head of year on a Friday at 3pm.

Will my parents / guardians be informed?

There will be no further communications to parents about student screens unless the school deem in necessary. However if a banned item is found parents will be informed and in some cases invited in to school to discuss the findings.