# Police probe hoax bomb threat amid surge in Scottish school incidents



# Police Investigate Hoax Bomb Threat at Auchmuty High School

Police Scotland conducted a thorough search of Auchmuty High School in Glenrothes following a reported hoax bomb threat on Tuesday morning. Officers were alerted to the situation shortly after 7:30 am and swiftly arrived to assess the premises located on Dovecot Road. After an extensive inspection of the school grounds, authorities determined that there was no evidence to substantiate the threat, and the school was declared safe for students and staff.

In a communication to parents, the school administration confirmed the receipt of the hoax threat prior to opening. "We received a hoax bomb threat, which required police presence to ensure the safety of our outer premises," the statement read. They reassured parents that the school remained locked down throughout the preceding long weekend, without any alarms triggered. The police focused their investigations primarily on the perimeter of the building and assured parents that there was no immediate risk. The email emphasised the need for a calm environment, particularly for students preparing for exams, inviting parents to reach out with any concerns.

This incident comes in the wake of broader concerns regarding the rise of such threats across Scotland. It follows a pattern noted in previous months, where malicious communications have resulted in arrests related to hoax bomb threats. Just a few months prior, police detained a teenager in connection with another bomb threat at a school in the region, which highlights a growing trend of serious disruptions instigated by false alarms.

Scotland has been grappling with a wave of similar hoaxes, often linked to the alarming phenomenon of "swatting”—a term used to describe falsely reporting emergencies, which can lead to significant police resource deployment. In a notable case, three teenage boys from various Scottish towns were arrested for making hoax threats not just within the UK, but also targeting schools in countries including the USA, Canada, and the Netherlands. These incidents have triggered a joint investigation involving law enforcement from multiple jurisdictions, underscoring the international dimension of the issue.

The impact of these threats extends far beyond mere inconvenience. According to police officials, such hoaxes divert crucial resources, cause unnecessary panic, and disrupt the educational environment. Shelagh McLean, head of education at Fife Council, stated that the safety of pupils and staff is the paramount concern, and the school responded decisively to contain the situation. As communities continue to respond to these threats, it becomes increasingly important to address the underlying motivations driving such irresponsible actions.

As further inquiries unfold, the implications of these hoax threats remain a pressing concern for schools and local authorities alike, providing ample reason for continued vigilance. The recent incidents highlight the ongoing challenges faced by educational institutions in maintaining safety and order amid a rising tide of malicious conduct.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5238721/auchmuty-high-school-glenrothes-bomb-threat/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5238721/auchmuty-high-school-glenrothes-bomb-threat/), [[3]](https://news.stv.tv/north/auchmuty-high-school-in-fife-targeted-with-malicious-bomb-threat)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5238721/auchmuty-high-school-glenrothes-bomb-threat/), [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-50644415)
* Paragraph 4 – [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-50644415), [[4]](https://www.fifetoday.co.uk/news/crime/fife-teenager-arrested-over-school-bomb-hoax-1330746)
* Paragraph 5 – [[3]](https://news.stv.tv/north/auchmuty-high-school-in-fife-targeted-with-malicious-bomb-threat), [[5]](https://archive.news.stv.tv/east-central/1433735-pupils-evacuated-from-high-schools-amid-hoax-bomb-threats.html)
* Paragraph 6 – [[6]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/788821/fife-high-school-targeted-by-hoax-bomb-threat/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5238721/auchmuty-high-school-glenrothes-bomb-threat/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-50644415> - Three teenage boys, aged 15 to 17, from Dundee, Musselburgh, and Glenrothes, were arrested and charged in connection with hoax threats made to schools in Scotland and other countries, including the USA, Canada, and the Netherlands. The threats led to evacuations and lockdowns in multiple schools. The teenagers are reported to have used an online app to make these threats, known as 'swatting'. Police Scotland stated that the teenagers would be reported to the procurator fiscal. The incidents prompted a joint investigation by police forces in the UK, USA, and Canada.
3. <https://news.stv.tv/north/auchmuty-high-school-in-fife-targeted-with-malicious-bomb-threat> - Police conducted a full sweep of Auchmuty High School in Glenrothes, Fife, after receiving a malicious bomb threat. No threat was identified, and the school remained open. A 16-year-old girl was arrested in connection with the incident. Shelagh McLean, head of education at Fife Council, stated that the school took the matter seriously and took immediate action to ensure the safety of pupils and staff. Police Scotland emphasized the seriousness of hoax communications, which divert resources and cause disruption and alarm.
4. <https://www.fifetoday.co.uk/news/crime/fife-teenager-arrested-over-school-bomb-hoax-1330746> - A Glenrothes teenager was among those arrested and charged with a series of bomb hoaxes targeting schools in five countries, including Scotland, England, the USA, Canada, and the Netherlands. Over 80 threats were made to schools and other premises in December 2018 and February 2019. The callers allegedly used an online app to claim there was a bomb at the school or that there was going to be a mass shooting. The hoaxes, known as 'swatting', prompted a joint investigation by police forces in the UK, USA, and Canada.
5. <https://archive.news.stv.tv/east-central/1433735-pupils-evacuated-from-high-schools-amid-hoax-bomb-threats.html> - Pupils were evacuated from several high schools across Scotland following hoax bomb threats received via telephone. Police and fire crews responded to each school, including Glenrothes High School in Fife, shortly before 1pm on Thursday. Officers evacuated the buildings but found nothing of concern. Police inquiries were at an early stage, and investigations continued. Assistant Chief Constable Steve Johnson emphasized the seriousness of such threats and the thorough response by police and schools to ensure safety.
6. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/788821/fife-high-school-targeted-by-hoax-bomb-threat/> - A police investigation was launched after Queen Anne High School in Dunfermline, Fife, received a hoax bomb threat. The telephone call was received by staff on Wednesday morning. Pupils remained within the building and were not evacuated after police officers were sent to the scene. Other secondary schools across Scotland received similar calls at around the same time. Assistant Chief Constable Steve Johnson stated that there was no evidence to indicate the threats were credible.
7. <https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/scotland/1903294/scottish-teenagers-charged-over-international-bomb-hoaxes-that-targeted-schools/> - Three Scottish teenagers were arrested and charged in connection with a series of bomb threat hoaxes that targeted schools in five countries, including Scotland, England, the USA, Canada, and the Netherlands. Over 80 threats were made to schools and other premises in December 2018 and February 2019. The callers allegedly used an online app to claim there was a bomb at the school or that there was going to be a mass shooting. The hoaxes, known as 'swatting', prompted a joint investigation by police forces in the UK, USA, and Canada.