# Man held boy while peers assaulted him near Newport school, police say



A deeply disturbing incident in Newport, South Wales, has drawn significant public concern after a video surfaced online depicting a schoolboy being brutally assaulted by a group of peers while an adult male appeared to restrain him. The footage, which has since sparked outrage, shows a 13-year-old boy being held by an older man while several others take turns striking him. This incident, taking place near Lliswerry High School, has not only highlighted issues of youth violence but has also raised alarms regarding the involvement of adults in such behaviours.

The assault reportedly occurred in broad daylight on a footbridge over Spytty Road, where the young boy was seen clearly distressed as he was attacked. Gwent Police confirmed that a teenage boy and a 30-year-old man have been arrested in connection with the incident, with the former facing charges of assault occasioning actual bodily harm and the latter charged with affray and similar assault-related offences. Both remain in custody as investigations continue. The police are also exploring reports of a different assault involving another child earlier on the same day, suggesting a troubling pattern of violence in the area.

Concerns surrounding youth behaviour and safety in schools have been echoed by many parents and community members. Headteacher Julia Fitzgerald from Lliswerry High School has stated that they are cooperating fully with the police investigations. In an official communication, she reassured parents that a full inquiry would take place, reflecting the school’s commitment to ensuring a safe environment for all students. Accompanying her sentiments, Chair of Governors Mark Howells has expressed his own worry given his children’s presence at the school, emphasising the need for a robust response to such incidents.

In light of this event, Gwent Police Assistant Chief Constable Vicki Townsend urged the community to refrain from speculation on social media, cautioning that such discourse could negatively impact ongoing investigations. She acknowledged that incidents of this nature cause significant concern within the community and reiterated the importance of careful communication regarding the matter. Police have implored witnesses or anyone with information to come forward, stressing that public assistance is vital for a thorough investigation.

This incident emerges against a backdrop of growing concern over youth violence in schools and communities across the UK. Just last year, another case involving an 11-year-old boy, Raheem Bailey, drew national attention after he was severely injured in an alleged group attack. While police dropped their investigation into that case, the community's support for Bailey was overwhelming, as a GoFundMe campaign raised substantial funds for his recovery.

As Gwent Police continue their inquiries into both the current assault and prior incidents, the community watches closely, eager for swift action and assurance that steps will be taken to prevent future occurrences of such violence. The trend of youth and group assaults raises pressing questions not only about safety in schools but about the societal conditions that allow such incidents to occur. Continued support from law enforcement and educational institutions will be essential in fostering a more secure environment for all children.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
2. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
3. Paragraph 5
4. Paragraph 7
5. Paragraph 5
6. N/A
7. N/A

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14717079/Schoolboy-13-man-custody-student-held-attacked-pack-police-probe-separate-assault.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14717079/Schoolboy-13-man-custody-student-held-attacked-pack-police-probe-separate-assault.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - A 13-year-old boy and a 30-year-old man were arrested in Newport, South Wales, after a video emerged showing a schoolboy being assaulted by a group. The incident occurred near Lliswerry High School, with the victim being restrained by an adult male while other youths attacked him. Gwent Police are investigating the assault and a separate reported incident involving another child earlier the same day. The school has been informed and is cooperating with authorities. The community is urged to avoid speculation on social media to aid the investigation.
3. <https://www.gwent.police.uk/news/gwent/news/news/2025/march/teenage-boy-charged-in-newport-assault-investigation/> - Gwent Police have charged a 17-year-old boy with multiple offences, including attempted murder, following an assault in Newport on 1 March 2025. The teenager was remanded into custody to appear before Newport Magistrates’ Court. A 19-year-old man was released on conditional bail pending further enquiries, while a second 19-year-old man was released with no further action taken. The investigation continues, and police are seeking information from the public to assist in bringing those responsible to justice.
4. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/19440167.video-shows-alleged-police-brutality-newport/> - A video showing alleged police brutality in Newport has been referred to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC). The footage, shared on social media, depicts a white officer restraining a Black man. Gwent Police stated they are reviewing their contact with the individual and have referred the matter to the IOPC for independent scrutiny. The incident occurred on 9 July 2021, when officers attended an address in Livale Court to make enquiries related to a report of a man driving while disqualified.
5. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/feb/10/gwent-police-drop-investigation-into-alleged-assault-of-boy-who-lost-finger> - Gwent Police have dropped an investigation into the alleged assault of 11-year-old Raheem Bailey, who lost a finger after being attacked by a group of children in May 2022. The police concluded that Raheem left the school grounds of his own accord and found no other individuals involved in his injury. The family has been informed of the investigation's outcome. Following the incident, Raheem received support from various sports stars and the community, including a GoFundMe campaign that raised over £100,000 for his recovery.
6. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c703y4ynd9zo> - Gwent Police officer John Stringer, 42, is accused of showing a young girl pornographic videos and touching her inappropriately. The alleged offences occurred during the Covid pandemic, with the girl being under 13 at the time. Stringer denies five charges related to the sexual abuse of a child. The trial continues, and the jury has been shown the police interview with the child, who described feeling 'forced' to watch the videos and act out what she saw.
7. <https://newsvoice.info/article/page/walesonline/news/wales-news/three-boys-arrested-after-alleged-30832754> - Three boys, aged 13 and 14, were arrested following an alleged attack on teachers at Newport High School on 7 January 2025. The incident led to the school being placed on lockdown. The 13-year-old was arrested on suspicion of burglary with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm, grievous bodily harm with intent, and criminal damage. Both 14-year-olds were arrested on suspicion of burglary with intent to commit criminal damage and burglary with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm. Inquiries are ongoing.