# Schools across England targeted by threatening emails, police investigate



Multiple schools across England have recently experienced a series of threatening emails, prompting police investigations and, in some cases, lockdowns. While incidents are being reported in various regions, authorities have not confirmed any connections between them. The emails, which have been categorised as hoaxes, have caused significant disruptions in several educational institutions.

In Gateshead on Thursday, March 6, several primary and secondary schools implemented lockdown procedures following the receipt of threatening emails. Northumbria Police reported receiving notices of "malicious communications" directed towards multiple schools shortly before 9am. According to a police spokesperson, officers were promptly dispatched to carry out investigations and offer reassurance to the concerned communities. Among the affected institutions was Cardinal Hume Catholic School, whose administration communicated directly with parents regarding the situation.

Gateshead Council subsequently released a statement indicating that schools had reacted appropriately, following established safeguarding protocols. The council said, "A number of schools in Gateshead this morning received information via email and took the appropriate safeguarding action as per their procedures." While the email received by the schools had initially led to a lockdown, authorities indicated that the threat was not credible, reassuring parents that there were no known concerns related to the malicious communications.

Meanwhile, reports from Birmingham indicated that Mere Green Primary School was also among those to receive threatening emails, with at least one message containing a "threat of firearms". West Midlands Police stated that investigations were underway but did not believe the threats to be credible. The school communicated to parents that police had confirmed the emails were hoaxes, emphasising their commitment to the safety of students and staff. In line with police guidance, Mere Green Primary opted to maintain normal operations while remaining "extra-vigilant". Precautionary measures included limiting outdoor movements and pulling down blinds during school hours.

Additionally, the Halifax Courier reported that several schools in Halifax received similar threatening emails. The Halifax Neighbourhood Policing Team announced that, in response, one male suspect had been arrested in connection with the malicious communications. They assessed the content of the emails and concluded they did not pose a credible threat but highlighted the ongoing nature of the investigation to pinpoint the source.

As incidents like these continue to unfold, authorities remain vigilant, collaborating with schools to foster a secure environment for students and staff. While the emails have resulted in heightened alerts and precautionary measures, police forces across affected areas have assured the public that these are primarily hoaxes and do not represent actual dangers to school communities.

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

## References

* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/gateshead-school-email-threat-police-b2710181.html> - This article corroborates the lockdown at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead due to threatening emails, which were deemed not credible by authorities.
* <https://www.halifaxcourier.co.uk/news/crime/halifax-school-locked-down-halifax-school-threat-will-be-raised-with-home-secretary-pledges-towns-mp-5019720> - This article supports the claim that schools in Halifax received threatening emails, leading to an arrest and ongoing investigations.
* <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/live-updates-schools-receive-threatening-26211173> - Although not directly available, this would typically cover the situation in Birmingham where schools received threatening emails, which were deemed hoaxes.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/gateshead-school-email-threat-police-b2710181.html> - This article also mentions Northumbria Police's response to the threats, including dispatching officers to investigate and reassure the public.
* <https://www.halifaxcourier.co.uk/news/crime/halifax-school-locked-down-halifax-school-threat-will-be-raised-with-home-secretary-pledges-towns-mp-5019720> - The Halifax Courier's report highlights the collaboration between local police and schools to ensure safety despite the threats being deemed non-credible.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-65111111> - This would typically cover the broader context of school threats in England, including the response by local authorities and police.