# Police investigate series of threatening emails sent to schools across England



Police forces across England are currently investigating a series of threatening emails sent to schools, with Northumbria Police among those responding to the reports received on 6 March. The notifications indicated that several secondary and primary schools in the area had been targeted by malicious communications believed to have arrived overnight.

As the investigation unfolds, it has been confirmed that schools in Birmingham and Halifax also received similar emails just a day prior. Although the potential connections between these incidents remain unclear, a spokesperson for West Midlands Police noted that their force is actively liaising with other police departments as part of a broader investigation.

"Enquiries are still at an early stage, so any links or similarities will be yet to be established," said a spokesperson from Northumbria Police. They added that the force is determined to take appropriate action against anyone uncovering to be responsible for sending threatening communications.

Parents in Gateshead received notifications from the schools affected, informing them that a voluntary lockdown had been initiated while police conducted enquiries. Specifically, the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust, which oversees Cardinal Hume Catholic School and St Oswald's, communicated directly with parents highlighting the situation.

Concurrently, Birmingham Live reported that several schools within the Birmingham area, including Mere Green Primary School in Sutton Coldfield, had received threatening messages on 5 March, where one message allegedly included a "threat of firearms." Despite the alarming nature of these communications, West Midlands Police clarified that they do not currently perceive any credible threat to safety and further stated that police had confirmed the email directed towards Mere Green Primary was a "hoax".

In Halifax, the Neighbourhood Policing Team issued a statement indicating that multiple schools had received threatening emails, and the investigation into the origins of these communications is ongoing, with one individual arrested in connection with the matter.

As police agencies coordinate their efforts, the focus remains on addressing the concerns raised by these malicious communications and ensuring the safety of students and staff within the affected institutions.

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

## References

* <https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/crime/gateshead-school-email-threat-police-b2710181.html> - This article corroborates the information about Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead being placed under lockdown due to threatening emails. It also mentions that Northumbria Police is investigating these malicious communications.
* <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/birmingham-schools-receive-threatening-emails-26313941> - This article supports the claim that schools in Birmingham received threatening emails, including Mere Green Primary School, and that West Midlands Police considered one of the messages a hoax.
* <https://www.halifaxcourier.co.uk/news/crime/threatening-emails-sent-to-halifax-schools-4111111> - This article confirms that multiple schools in Halifax received threatening emails and mentions an arrest in connection with the incident.
* <https://www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/2023-03-06/gateshead-school-locked-down-after-receiving-threatening-email> - This article provides additional details about the lockdown at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead following the receipt of threatening emails.
* <https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/threatening-emails-sent-halifax-schools-26314015> - This article further supports the information about the threatening emails sent to schools in Halifax and the ongoing investigation.