# Parents at Lliswerry High divided as social media amplifies concerns over safety and behaviour



Concerns surrounding safety and behaviour at Lliswerry High School in Newport are prompting significant debate among parents, particularly in light of recent incidents that have been shared widely on social media. A recent article by the South Wales Argus sought to understand parental perceptions about the school amid these rising fears. While two parents offered supportive or neutral opinions, many others chose to remain anonymous, expressing deep dissatisfaction regarding alleged violence and classroom disruptions.

A father of a Year 11 pupil highlighted how social media exacerbates fears about the school environment, stating, “There is just too much social media footage and gossip about behaviour problems and fights.” He suggested that the culture of sharing videos online can lead to copycat behaviour, creating a cycle of unrest. Echoing this sentiment, a mother with a Year 9 child expressed her apprehensions, remarking, “There’s always worry,” despite not having experienced any serious issues herself.

Despite the prevalence of these fears, specific reports of violence within the school have not been conclusively substantiated. The main allegations involve the presence of gangs and bullying, alongside claims of revenge attacks. In response to these anxieties, the school has taken steps to engage parents by establishing a liaison group that meets with senior staff, signalling its commitment to transparency and collaboration in addressing concerns.

Interestingly, the narrative isn't entirely negative. Some community members, such as Uday Patel, who runs a local store, maintain a more optimistic view of Lliswerry High. Patel reflected on his own sons' positive experiences, attributing their success in higher education to the school's solid educational framework. He remarked, “Things have got more difficult, especially in the last five years,” yet he believes that following clear behavioural guidelines can lead to improvements in student conduct.

The school administration has responded directly to the narrative surrounding its reputation, challenging characterisations of Lliswerry High as “crisis-hit.” They clarified that recent incidents, including some specific reports of violence, originated outside school premises and have since been appropriately managed according to Welsh government guidelines. The school emphasised that pupils involved have faced disciplinary action, asserting that any ongoing police investigations prohibit further comment on such cases.

These developments come amidst wider concerns about violence in Newport's schools. Recent statistics reveal a troubling trend, with 121 incidents of violence, bullying, and intimidation reported to Gwent Police over a two-year period, prompting questions about the effectiveness of anti-bullying initiatives. Local authorities have defended their policies, claiming confidence in the protections offered to students.

Ultimately, while some parents express serious concerns about safety and behaviour at Lliswerry High School, with the echoes of social media amplifying these sentiments, others maintain a belief in the institution's ability to nurture and educate effectively. The varying perspectives underscore the complexity of the school environment and the balancing act required of educators in ensuring both safety and academic success in challenging times.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25194262.parents-react-alleged-violence-lliswerry-high-school/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/school-rocked-violent-incidents-excludes-26852470)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25194262.parents-react-alleged-violence-lliswerry-high-school/?ref=rss), [[3]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/23478233.lliswerry-high-school-pupil-assaulted-newport/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/school-rocked-violent-incidents-excludes-26852470), [[5]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/17794783.revealed-scale-bulling-issues-newport-schools/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25194262.parents-react-alleged-violence-lliswerry-high-school/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 5 – [[2]](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/school-rocked-violent-incidents-excludes-26852470), [[4]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/24709076.reports-stabbing-teenager-near-nash-college-newport/)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25194262.parents-react-alleged-violence-lliswerry-high-school/?ref=rss), [[3]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/23478233.lliswerry-high-school-pupil-assaulted-newport/), [[5]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/17794783.revealed-scale-bulling-issues-newport-schools/)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25194262.parents-react-alleged-violence-lliswerry-high-school/?ref=rss), [[6]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/23543993.lliswerry-newport-residents-affected-social-media-kicking-trend/)

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25194262.parents-react-alleged-violence-lliswerry-high-school/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/school-rocked-violent-incidents-excludes-26852470> - Lliswerry High School in Newport has excluded two pupils and established a liaison group with parents and carers following violent incidents shared on social media. The school is committed to ensuring student safety and has taken strong sanctions against those involved. A group for parents and carers to meet with senior staff every half term has been set up to address concerns constructively.
3. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/23478233.lliswerry-high-school-pupil-assaulted-newport/> - A pupil from Lliswerry High School was allegedly assaulted near Spytty Stadium in Newport. The headteacher, Neil Davies, appealed for information regarding the incident, which occurred around 3pm. The school is working closely with Gwent Police to investigate the matter and ensure the safety of its students.
4. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/24709076.reports-stabbing-teenager-near-nash-college-newport/> - An investigation is underway following a reported stabbing of a teenager near Nash College in Newport. The incident occurred around 3pm, with a heavy emergency services presence in the area. Parents reported the college being in partial lockdown. Local councillor Alan Morris condemned the violence and urged the police to apprehend the assailant swiftly.
5. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/17794783.revealed-scale-bulling-issues-newport-schools/> - Concerns have been raised about bullying in Newport secondary schools after 121 incidents were referred to Gwent Police over two years. Figures from a Freedom of Information request reveal that 58 referrals related to violence, bullying, intimidation, assault, and battery. Questions have been asked about the robustness of anti-bullying policies, though the council says it has 'full confidence' in what schools have in place.
6. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/23543993.lliswerry-newport-residents-affected-social-media-kicking-trend/> - Residents in Lliswerry, Newport, have been left terrified after a spate of anti-social behaviour in which their front doors have been kicked late at night. People living in and around Cromwell Road have reported their doors being knocked on or kicked late at night, sometimes as late as 2.30am. CCTV footage from a doorbell camera in the area recorded just before midnight on Saturday, May 13, shows a man covering his face before kicking a door and running away.
7. <https://www.theguardian.com/education/2025/mar/04/school-leaders-england-wales-northern-ireland-say-parents-have-abused-them> - A survey by the National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) found that four in five school leaders in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland have suffered abuse from pupils' parents in the past year. The abuse includes verbal, physical, and online attacks, with some leaders being spat at, trolled on social media, and even physically attacked. The NAHT is calling for the government to send a clear signal to parents that such abuse is unacceptable in schools.