

Note: If you are unaware of whether the school/college in question has a school-based police officer or regular police presence, please begin by posing that question. We differentiate between a school-based police officer and regular police presence because the school/college may do so. While some may say that they do not have a 'school-based police officer', the conversation must not end there. In some cases, they have officers on a part-time basis or regularly visiting as part of their neighbourhood policing role, for example.

Dear [x]

I have been made aware by [my child/a teacher/a community member] that [name of school/college] has a [school-based police officer/police officer in regular attendance].

Firstly, I would like to draw your attention to a report released in August 2020, entitled ['Decriminalise the Classroom: A Community Response to Police in Greater Manchester's Schools'](#). The report, which surveyed 554 people from across Greater Manchester, including young people, parents, teachers and community members, raises significant concerns about the presence of police in schools. Its findings show clearly why we should be looking to alternative provisions and ambitions for education in place of policing.

Secondly, as a concerned [parent/guardian/community member] I would like answers to the following questions in regard to the police officer [name of school/college] works with:

- 1) What is their primary role within the school and who are they accountable to?
- 2) Do they work in the school on a part-time, full-time or ad-hoc basis? How long have you worked with them?
- 3) Does the school fund any part of their employment?
- 4) Were parents and young people consulted before they started their role? If they were, in what way? If not, why not?
- 5) Does the officer carry a taser or any other equipment that could be used against students (baton, pepper spray etc.)
- 6) Where can young people and parents make complaints about the officer, if needed?
- 7) Have you considered the harm this will cause to young people in already marginalised groups? For example, black young people who experience discriminate policing outside of the schools gates, who no longer have a safe space.

Furthermore, I would like to request all information (policy, documentation) that [name of school/college] has in place surrounding its partnership with Greater Manchester Police.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards,

[Name]