



5th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Aston Villa FC v Maccabi Tel Aviv FC on Thursday 6th November 2025 at Villa Park

I am writing to inform you of the upcoming football match between Aston Villa F.C. and Maccabi Tel Aviv F.C., taking place on Thursday 6 November 2025 at 8.00pm at Villa Park in Birmingham. As you will be aware, our academy is located only a few miles from the stadium, and given the high-profile nature of the fixture, we want to make you aware of the associated safety and security arrangements.

This match has been designated a *high-risk* fixture by West Midlands Police, and a substantial policing operation will be in place in and around Villa Park. The purpose of this letter is to outline the measures being taken by the police and local authorities, to reassure you of the vigilance in operation, and to highlight some practical implications for student travel at the end of the school day.

Security Measures

According to recent press reports, the following measures will be in effect:

- Over 700 police officers will be deployed for the fixture within the West Midlands Police area.
- The operation will include uniformed officers, mounted units, dog units and a dedicated drone unit.
- A no-fly zone will be in place: drones will not be permitted within one nautical mile of Villa Park between 2.00pm and 11.59pm on match day.
- “Protest liaison officers” will be deployed, as demonstrations by different groups are anticipated.
- Road-policing and traffic management units will be operating, and significant disruption to traffic in the surrounding area is expected. The public are advised to avoid the immediate vicinity where possible.

Impact for Students, Staff and Families

Given our proximity to Villa Park and the enhanced security arrangements, please note the following:

- **Students will be released from the academy at the earlier time of 2.15pm on Thursday 6 November**, and all after-school detentions will be cancelled on this day. We strongly advise students to travel home directly and promptly.
- If your child travels on train routes serving **Aston Station** or **Witton Station**, please be aware that increased crowding and delays are likely.

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- Any student who **wishes to remain onsite** until our usual finish time of **3.15pm** may do so. These students will be supervised in the Theatre from 2.15pm. However, for those remaining onsite, **a parent or guardian should inform the academy by 9.15am on Thursday 6 November** by emailing info@boa-digital.co.uk, using the subject line: **Remaining on Site.**

West Midlands Police has advised that gatherings or demonstrations may take place near Villa Park. While we do not currently anticipate any direct impact on the area surrounding BOA Digital, we will remain in contact with the police should circumstances change.

Our Commitment

We will continue to monitor advice and guidance from West Midlands Police, Birmingham City Council, and relevant safety advisory groups. The safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and local community remains our utmost priority.

We will update you should we receive any further information.

Yours truly,



Dr Jon Morris
Principal