



How to contact the police

If you think a crime is in progress or you see or hear anything suspicious DIAL 999. Don't delay!



Remember:

- Stay where you are
- Do not approach suspicious people
- Remain calm
- Continue to watch, from a discreet/safe position

For help or advice from the police when it is not an emergency, call the Police Force Communications Centre on **0131 311 3131**.

Edinburgh is a safe place to work, live and visit. By playing your part in this scheme, you can make a major contribution to reducing further criminal behaviour in your local community.



created in association with





SCHOOL WATCH

Your school has become a member of the School Watch Scheme

What does this mean to you?

We need your help to protect our City schools from vandals and thieves.

What is School Watch?

School Watch is a scheme similar to Neighbourhood Watch, but specifically deals with looking after the local school. It involves the Police, the School, City of Edinburgh Council Community Safety Department, and above all, individuals and families who want to protect their schools from criminals.

Why do we need School Watch?

Our schools are vulnerable and are being regularly targeted by criminals.

Vandalism and housebreaking to a child's school can have a similar impact as a break-in to their home. Our children are proud of their school and damage can be traumatic to both the staff and its pupils. When school equipment is damaged or stolen, it takes time for equipment to be replaced and as a result classes have to be cancelled. Due to high insurance excesses, schools often have to replace equipment themselves. Would you rather the school spend their money on the children or on financing damage repairs or replacement of goods through theft?

By working together as a community to protect our schools, we not only provide a safe environment for our children, but we protect our children from the impact of these crimes.



SCHOOL WATCH

By implementing School Watch we aim;

- To reduce the opportunity for crime and deter criminals.
- To build up a community spirit.
- To save money for education as opposed to this being spent on repairs to schools or replacement of goods through theft.

How you can help

You can be part of School Watch, and it doesn't involve being on a committee or going to meetings.

Your call to Police could prevent break-ins, vandalism, graffiti or even fireraising. Ensuring your school is well cared for reflects on your community and contributes to the value of surrounding homes, so it's worth it!

Be alert and on the look out for crime or any suspicious situation that could lead to a crime being committed.

Most importantly, if you live near a school and see or hear suspicious behaviour, immediately telephone:

**Police on 0131 311 3131 or
999 in case of emergency**

What to look for?

The most important times for you to be vigilant are during school holidays and evenings, as schools are unattended and therefore more vulnerable to crime.

If you hear unusual noises from within a school, such as glass breaking or banging noises, there could be a crime being committed.

Look for unusual vehicles parked at a school on weekends or during holidays.

Watch for groups hanging around on school grounds. This should not occur and can be one of the starting points for crime to occur.

Write down the description of the people involved and any vehicle registration numbers and give this information to the Police straight away.

