

The Gilbert School

Part of the Alpha Trust



RLI/wwh
4th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: 'School Wars' – Social Media

We are writing to you regarding an online trend circulating on TikTok, referred to as '*School Wars*' that you may be concerned about. The posts associated with this trend encourage young people to engage in physical confrontations with students from other schools.

Please be aware of the following:

- The Police are already aware and have communicated with all schools.
- There appears to be no identified organiser or coordinated group behind this trend. It appears to be entirely 'influence-driven', with no structure or leadership.
- We have received no reports of any related incidents in Essex.

However, we recognise that hearing about this trend will cause concern for parents and carers. Student safety is always our highest priority, and we will continue to take sensible and proportionate steps to safeguard all members of our school community.

To help us manage this effectively, please avoid contacting the school by telephone or email unless you have specific information that requires our immediate attention. A high volume of general enquiries can prevent us from responding quickly where it is most needed.

As usual, staff will be on duty at the beginning and end of the school day. Please encourage your child to continue travelling to and from school in their normal way, and to speak with a trusted adult if they ever feel unsafe or worried.

Thank you for your continued support and for working with us to keep our school community safe.

Yours faithfully

Mrs R J Litton
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Headteacher: Mr J Mitchell
Brinkley Lane, Colchester, Essex CO4 9PU
Tel: 01206 842211 Email: admin@gilberd.com Website: www.gilberd.com

Alpha Trust

Registered in England and Wales Company No 07755713

Registered office: Norman Way, Colchester, Essex CO3 3US

