

## SAFETY HOUSE PROGRAMME

In response to the survey taken out earlier, we wish to advise that the programme is currently being drafted. It is planned to be operative by the end of the first term of the new school year. The programme has been designed specifically to operate as a deterrent within the established zone of North Ringwood primary School.

It must be understood that the programme as envisaged cannot guarantee the safety of your children. The Safety House Parents are not and cannot accept such responsibility, but the programme should be of considerable advantage to your children.

Should you wish your child to take further advantage of this, it is your prerogative to instruct your child accordingly. A programme will be conducted at the school to familiarise them with the programme.

### OBJECTIVES:-

- \* To act as a deterrent to undesirable people coming into the area and approaching children whilst they are in transit to and from school.
- \* Through Safety Houses, to provide a means to greatly improve the chance that, should a child run into a house :-
  1. someone will be home, and
  2. they will not run into trouble.
- \* There is no guarantee as to the safety of children but we believe that the programme reduces the dangers faced by children considerably. This point is emphasised throughout this document.
- \* To maintain community awareness of the problem faced by children in transit to and from school.

Safety House Parents will be advised to observe the following procedure:-

1. The householder ring the police on "000" immediately as timing could be critical.
2. Follow instructions given by the police upon telephoning.
3. Comfort the child.

The symbol of a smiling house and police logo enclosed in a triangle, to identify the "Safety House", will be attached to those householders' letterboxes and reader stickers of same will be distributed to the children prior to commencement of the programme.

A committee has been formed but requires more assistance in order to make a success of this programme. We would like to point out that this requires **very little effort** on the part of the individual. Should you be able to assist in this very worthwhile community project please contact either the North Ringwood Primary School 876-3250 or Jacqui Touzel 876-2930.

Members of your committee will be visiting the participating householders to advise them of the operational guidelines.

If you wish to take advantage of this programme, we can only expect success through your co-operation and education of your children to use this programme wisely.

Many thanks,

your Safety House committee.