

ST MARYS CATHOLIC CHURCH, BRIDGE GATE, DERBY

RESPONSE TO A FIREARMS OR OTHER WEAPON ATTACK (RUN – HIDE - TELL)

An incident of this type may arise without any prior warning and without any time to issue any instructions. These situations are very dynamic and often involve a moving threat. People will need to decide their own response based on the “Run, hide and tell” principle.

- RUN – if it is safe to escape

Try to remove yourself and others in your area from close proximity to the offender.

If under immediate fire or attack, take cover initially but attempt to leave the area as soon as it seems safe to move.

- Check that your escape route is clear
- Leave your belongings behind (except mobile phones)
- Move quickly and quietly
- Insist other go with you
- Move away as far as possible
- Do not congregate in open areas or wait at evacuation or assembly point.

If not under immediate fire or attack, leave the area immediately and move quickly away from the direction of the threat.

- HIDE – if you cannot escape safely

If you don't believe that you can evacuate safely then hiding and sheltering in a suitable place may be the better option.

- Find cover from gunfire or other attack
- Try to find a place with reinforced walls
- Lock door and barricade the entrance
- Keep away from the door, remain quiet and stay until told otherwise by the police or emergency services
- Silence mobile phones and switch off 'vibrate'
- Don't shout for help

Constantly re-assess the situation and your options based on the best available information.

- TELL – when you are safe

Contact the police on 999 as soon possible without putting yourself at risk and provide as much information about the attack as you are able.

- Exact location of the incident
- Description of the offender and his/her position or direction of movement
- Details of the firearm or weapon
- Number of people in the area and details of any injuries.

THE POLICE RESPONSE

On arrival the police will deal with the immediate threat first so there may be some delay before finding you

- Do everything that you are told to
- Stay calm and don't shout or wave your arms
- Don't make any sudden movements or gestures
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Give as much information as possible