



SCHOOL COMMUNITY WATCH

Neighbourhood Watch at Bracknell Police Station are working together with Schools Extended Services on a new venture, School Community Watch. The aim is to work with young people aged 10 and 11 years, encouraging them to share their concerns with the Police in an effort to make their community a happier and safer place. Several schools have already been approached who are now part of the scheme and the hope is, that by the end of the current academic year, all Junior schools in the Bracknell Forest will have signed up, each displaying the School Community Watch boards, designed by a student at Harmans Water Junior back in the Summer, outside the school.

Margaret Weber, NHW Administrator, together with Police Community Support Officers from each area of Bracknell Forest, have been encouraging the students to fill in a specially designed "Bracknell Forest Neighbourhood Action Group" form, expressing their three main concerns in their community. These concerns will then be presented to Police and Borough Council as do the Adult Forms. It is clear that the young people have some very valid issues which should be addressed.

The whole project has been designed to provide young people with information about current local crime and disorder issues in their community; to encourage them to actively contribute to crime and disorder reduction, to adopt some of the principles of Neighbourhood Watch; help them keep and feel safe at all times; encourage them to report their concerns and assist them with the transition from primary to secondary education. We would also encourage and ensure that schools become a focal point within the community, ensuring that young people are becoming and acknowledged as, valued members of their local community.