



Essex Police Headquarters

PO Box 2, Springfield

Chelmsford

Essex

CM2 6DA

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Essex is one of the safest counties in the country. However as the nights draw in, sadly, history tells us the number of house burglaries tends to increase. Most burglars are opportunists so there are simple steps you can take to help secure your home and prevent this horrible crime.

- Please close and lock all windows and doors every time you leave your house or go to bed - an open door or window may be seen as an opportunity for a burglar.
- Make sure your doors are 'double locked' - i.e. lift the handle to engage the retaining bolts, turn the key and then remove the key from the lock.
- Please do not leave your keys by your doors or in view of windows but ensure they are easy to access should you need to get out in an emergency.
- If you have a burglar alarm, please use it at all times, even when you're just popping out. Also consider using the 'zone' setting functions before going to bed if you have it.
- Check the access to the rear of your property. Try to ensure access to your garden is not easily obtained.
- Secure your sheds and garages as they contain valuable items and tools that can be used to break into your home.
- Leave lights on, or on timers, to give the impression your house is occupied.
- Don't leave valuable items on display.
- Mark your property and register your items free on www.immobilise.com

For more information on how to keep you and your property secure during the winter months, visit essex.police.uk/secure.

Keep safe this winter and do all you can to secure your home.

Thank you,

Andy Prophet
Assistant Chief Constable
Essex Police



Protecting and serving Essex