

## School security

### Quick facts:

- During the 2017 school year, there were more than 6 859 reports of incidents such as vandalism, break-ins and arson at WA public schools.
- The cost of this damage in 2017 was more than \$1.5 million.
- Over the course of the year, members of the public made more than 1 800 calls to School Watch, resulting in 1 494 people being warned off WA public school grounds.

### Overview:

Weekends and school holidays are an opportunistic time for vandals to target schools. The Department of Education and WA Police encourage the community to look out for their local school and report any suspicious activity.

### School Watch:

School Watch security staff patrol areas around schools after hours, on weekends and during school holidays to visually deter would-be vandals.

It is also important for community members to be vigilant and report anything suspicious to School Watch on **1800 177 777** and WA Police on **131 444**.

### Signs to watch for:

Signs of suspicious activity at schools include:

- unusual vehicles parked on school grounds;
- noises such as glass breaking or loud banging; and
- groups milling around school grounds.

### School security measures:

The Department of Education takes an integrated approach to security. This may include electronic security lighting, mobile patrols, landscape management and CCTV (closed circuit television). Crime prevention through environmental design is the approach taken when planning and designing new schools.



**Related information:**

[WA Police](#)

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