

Stay Aware: Preventing Personal Theft

Mobile phones, ipods, laptops and gold jewellery. Young people carry around with them a lot of valuable items nowadays and Redbridge Police want young people to feel confident and be safe when out and about. Here we give young people some top tips on how to be vigilant.

Be aware and keep your possessions safe

- Don't leave your bags or other valuables unattended in public places.
- Be discreet with your belongings; displaying expensive jewellery or electronic devices, like mobile phones or cameras, could attract unwanted attention.
- Be aware of what's happening around you and take care when using cash machines; don't carry large sums of money on you.
- Don't tempt mobile phone thieves, be aware when making a call

Reduce the risk of mobile phone theft by following these simple tips:

- Don't leave your phone on tables in public places such as restaurants.
- When you leave a train or tube station, don't use your phone immediately, leave it a while.
- Don't walk and text at the same time, you will be less aware of what is happening around you.
- Keep calls in public places as brief as possible, the longer you talk, the more likely you are to be spotted by a potential thief.

Looks good enough to grab

- Make sure your jewellery is not visible.
- Plan your journey in advance.
- Avoid dark or deserted areas late at night.
- Be aware of your surroundings and stay alert to what's going on around you.

Remember to...

- All phones have an IMEI number which is a unique identifier for the phone; you can obtain this number by typing *#06# (star hash 06 hash) into your mobile phone and it will display a 15 digit number. Keep a record of this number and register it at www.immobilise.com
- Property mark your phone.
- In an emergency call 999.

For more crime prevention advice visit www.met.police.uk