

10th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Madeley School we are very proud that the vast majority of our pupils demonstrate exceptionally high standards of behaviour and conduct every day. Visitors regularly comment on how polite, respectful and well-mannered our pupils are, and this creates the calm, purposeful learning environment that makes our school so successful. Naturally, as in any school, there remains a small number of behaviours that we continue to challenge, refine and strengthen our response to, in order to ensure that all pupils meet our consistently high expectations.

During the summer holidays we have reflected on the behaviour policy that was introduced last year. An updated version will shortly be available on the school website which will include some amendments. The key changes have been highlighted as part of the welcome back assemblies that outlined the high expectations of behaviour and attitudes that we have at Madeley School. The key points are listed here for your attention:

Internal Truancy

Internal Truancy continues to be a national concern, and it is one we have taken seriously at Madeley School. Throughout this academic year, we have been focused on developing effective strategies to ensure that all pupils are in lessons, on time, every time.

We define *internal truancy* as when a pupil arrives over 5 minutes late to a lesson or makes a deliberate choice not to attend a lesson without a reason, we deem valid. This behaviour not only disrupts their own learning but also affects the flow of the lesson and the progress of their peers. Additionally, it is a safeguarding concern and requires significant staff time and resources to track and encourage these pupils back into class—time that could otherwise be spent supporting learning.

As of this week, all students who are found to be truanting will spend 3 lessons and their break and lunch time in the Reset Room. In the Reset Room, we will work with pupils to:

- Complete assigned work in a closely supervised environment.
- Understand the reasons behind their lateness or absence.
- Explore strategies to help them get to lessons on time.
- Reinforce the importance of being punctual and present for their learning and the consequences of not doing so.

Importantly, the Reset Room also acts as a deterrent, reinforcing our high expectations and the value we place on every learning minute.

PRIDE & RESPECT • CONFIDENCE • RESILIENCE • ASPIRATION • POSITIVITY • ENJOYMENT • POLITENESS

Refusal to meet classroom expectations and “Hot Seat”

Those pupils who fail to meet classroom expectations and then refuse the “Hot Seat” (removal to another classroom) will have a half day external suspension issued following contact with parents/carers. The following day will be spent in the Reset Room. Parents will need to bring their child to school for 8:55 and collect at 2:45. Pupils will have breaks and lunch at different times to the rest of the school.

Vaping

We have been sending letters home to try to address this issue which still persist in school, and some pupils are very adept at hiding vapes on their person. As such, for those who are recorded as present three times in the toilets when the vape alarm goes off an internal suspension will be issued. The following day they will be spent in the Reset Room. Parents will need to bring their child to school for 8:55 and collect at 2:45. Pupils will have breaks and lunch at different times to the rest of the school. Further repeats of the same behaviour will result in an escalation of these sanctions.

Toilet Cubicle Multiple Occupancy

This is another matter that we have tried to address last academic year that we are keen to eradicate moving forwards. Therefore, those pupils who are recorded three times in the same cubicle as other pupils will be issued an internal suspension. The following day will be spent in the Reset Room. Parents / carers will need to bring their child to school for 8:55 and collect at 2:45. Pupils will have breaks and lunch at different times to the rest of the school. Further repeats of the same behaviour will result in an escalation of these sanctions.

Finally, can I remind you all that after school detentions are not optional. Many pupils receive after school detentions that have been issued as a result of them not attending a break or lunch detention. All detentions are visible in Arbor on the pupils’ iPads and they are given reminders by staff. Please encourage your child to attend these break and lunch detentions to avoid inconveniencing yourselves from having to collect them from after school detentions.

Your sincerely



Lee Nixon
Principal