



St. Cuthbert's

Roman Catholic High School

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

In December, I wrote to you to outline the work we had been doing in school to ensure all our students had a positive experience whilst at St Cuthbert's. This included; our school's expectations, the Peer on Peer Abuse Survey conducted and preparation was under way for a full review of our behaviour policy ready for September 2022.

I would, firstly, like to thank all our families who have supported us with maintaining our high expectations. These have been included towards the end of the letter as a reminder.

I am also writing to ask for parents support in speaking with their sons and daughters about the use of acceptable language and the use of toilets. We will be doing assemblies on both of these matters in the next couple of weeks so that our students understand the importance of playing their part within our school community.

Sadly, we have seen poor behaviour around these matters since our return from February half term and whilst this is the behaviour of a small minority of students we believe by addressing the matters whole school, it will encourage our students to challenge such unacceptable behaviour and language.

With regards to the use of acceptable language this will be focussed in line with the work already started in our students' Skills for Life lessons & in response to recent surveys. Within the assemblies, we will raise how any unacceptable language will be dealt with and reported on; under the headings of racism, homophobic and transphobic language, sexual harassment and bullying. Parents will be contacted and C4s will be issued (this is already part of our behavioural system).

Students have already had an assembly regarding this and have been asked to report to staff such incidences of unacceptable language. They can do this during the school day, use our wellbeing section of class charts or use the 'Report bullying' button on our website.

We have experienced some students forgetting that they are in a school setting and interacting with peers and staff as though they are outside of school.

All interactions should be with respect and we ask that parents support us with speaking to their child about doing as they are asked first time. Any verbal abuse towards staff or each other will be dealt with through our Reflect centre. Any poor language heard in class or on the corridors will result in an immediate 30-minute detention.

In relation to our toilets they are open throughout the day for students to use with permission from their teacher. Requests for toilet passes must be in writing with medical evidence.

However, we have a small number of students who choose to hang around the toilets who have caused some damage, left litter/food wrappings in the toilets and in some cases, we are finding more than one student in a cubicle. All students should be able to use the toilets that have been left in a clean way for the next student to use.

In the assemblies, students will be reminded of how they should leave the toilets after they have used them. Any instances of more than one student in a toilet is a safeguarding concern and we followed up as such, this will be logged using our school systems, contact with home will be made and an immediate C3 will be issued.

It is important that students recognise they are part of the St Cuthbert's community and they should respect each other and the school environment as they should as part of the wider communities and society they are a part of.

Reminder of Expectations:

Our school gates close at 8.20am so that students are sat ready to learn at 8.25am; being 5 minutes late each day equates to three full school days lost. Students will also receive immediate C3s for punctuality if they are late to class or school within 5 minutes.

Our expectations regarding uniform, facial piercings, artificial nails/eye lashes can be found below:

Students **MUST** be in full school uniform, please refer to our [uniform list](#), and attend school with the correct equipment and a suitable school bag.

Students should not be in trainers (black Nike Air Force One). Students should have all facial piercings removed as well as false/artificial nails and false eye lashes.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kind Regards,

Mrs Logan
Senior Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral)