



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

I am writing to inform you about some changes to our behaviour policy that will take effect after the half-term break.

As the new Deputy Headteacher at Tottington High School, I am committed to placing positive relationships at the heart of everything we do. I am a strong advocate of relational behaviour approaches that are both attachment- and trauma-informed. I successfully implemented this approach in previous schools. This approach is evidence-based and supported by a wide range of research. It prioritises connection, empathy, and mutual respect.

On our upcoming staff INSET day, I will begin the process of training staff in these relational approaches, with continued development scheduled for September.

Education is so important because it empowers young people with knowledge, skills, and confidence to make informed decisions and improve their lives. It opens better job opportunities, supports economic growth, and promotes health, equality, and social mobility.

One important point I'd like to emphasise: this approach does **not** lower expectations. On the contrary, it upholds the highest standards for our young people—because we believe in them and want the very best for their future. As part of this approach, we are making a few changes after half term:

#### **Toilets:**

It is essential that all students are treated with dignity and have access to toilet facilities. However, we are aware that some students have been misusing this system to avoid learning time. Moving forward, students requesting to use the toilet during lessons will be accompanied by a member of our on-call staff. To facilitate this, we will be increasing the number of staff available on call. This will ensure needs are met but learning time is maximised.

Please do get in touch with your child's pastoral manager if they have any medical needs that can be evidenced and require a toilet pass.

#### **After-school detentions:**

Our goal is to keep students in school, learning and progressing.

Therefore, we will be introducing **after-school detentions** as a key tool for accountability, missed learning, and restorative conversations with staff. We understand that some students rely on school buses; where this is the case, we will take individual circumstances into account and communicate with families as needed so you can make alternative arrangements for your child's journey home.

Please rest assured that detentions will **only** be issued when necessary, and your child will always have had multiple chances to make the right choice. Our relational behaviour approach prioritises giving students prompts, reminders, and time to adjust their behaviour before any consequence is given.

Detentions will be 20 or 30 or 40 minutes in length.

We ask for your support in reinforcing these expectations at home. By working together, we can create a positive, respectful, and supportive learning environment for all.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Kind regards,



Louise Jaunbocus-Cooper  
Deputy Headteacher  
Tottington High School

