

5 June 2026

Dear parents and carers,

## Two Serious Community Concerns

I am writing to address two serious areas of concern where a small minority of students are failing to meet our expectations and, in doing so, are placing themselves, others, and the reputation of our school at risk. I want to make it absolutely clear that we will not continue to tolerate this behaviour and any student who chooses not to meet our expectations will face significant sanctions, which in the most serious cases, may include permanent exclusion. Where damage has been caused, families will be held financially responsible for repair and cleaning costs.

### 1. We have received multiple reports of students causing problems in the town after school.

This has included

- The use of offensive and inappropriate language
- Anti-social behaviour and intimidation
- Fighting and brawling
- Incidents of shoplifting

As you will understand this behaviour is completely unacceptable. Not only does it put young people at risk, it also damages relationships with our local community, and undermines the values we expect every student to uphold. **As a result, until the end of this term we are asking that you support us by insisting that students do not remain in town after school unless they have a clear, purposeful reason** (such as making a purchase) **and then must return home without delay.** Gathering in large groups, particularly outside shops and food outlets and in the local parks, is sadly, no longer acceptable. Students who do not comply or become involved in any incidents going forward will risk police involvement as well as severe school sanctions.

Please do note that students are very welcome to stay on site at the end of the school day to wait for a lift or to play sports as long as they are kind and respectful to each other and the environment.

### 2. An increase in incidents of vandalism and graffiti especially in newly refurbished areas of the school.

This has included

- Disrespectful and harmful comments about staff and students
- Obscene and inappropriate drawings
- Deliberate vandalism of school property



Again, this behaviour is unacceptable and shows a complete disregard for the school environment and our community. We have CCTV across the school site and will work to establish who is causing the damage. Those found responsible will face serious disciplinary action, up to and including permanent exclusion, and families will be required to cover the full cost of repairs and cleaning.

### **How you can Help**

We believe strongly that working in partnership is the most effective way to ensure success because we recognise that when school and home present a united front, our young people are far more likely to make the right choices. While we will take decisive action in school, the responsibility for students' conduct outside school hours rests first and foremost with parents and carers.

I therefore ask that you:

1. **Share this information with your young person and let us know if they have any further information**
2. **Know where your young person is and who they are with after school**
3. **Ensure they come straight home unless there is a clear, appropriate reason not to**
4. **Reinforce our expectations around behaviour, respect and safety**
5. **Make it clear that anti-social behaviour, vandalism and shoplifting will not be tolerated**

It really saddens me that I am having to write to everyone about these issues, because I am so proud of our school and of the vast majority of our students who behave impeccably and contribute positively to our community. It is for that reason that we will not and cannot allow the actions of a few to undermine this.

Our shared responsibility is clear: to safeguard our young people, protect our community, care for our environment, and ensure we continue to develop respectful, trustworthy young people.

Thank you for your immediate and continued support.

Best wishes

**Mrs Kerry Oakley**

Headteacher NPQEL

