THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

An Ofsted Graded Good School

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10th January 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

Working Together to Continue to Raise Standards

One year ago, we wrote to you to inform you that we had embarked on the Behaviour Hubs programme, run by the Department for Education. We are writing to you today to update you on the remarkable progress we've made in the past year and to share some of the positive outcomes that have resulted from this initiative.

It has been an incredible journey and we are delighted to say that the improvements we have seen in the behaviour of our students have been significant. Our Behaviour Policy has been tightened and refined over the year, we've implemented staff training and introduced a variety of new routines throughout the school day. We are pleased to report that these changes have had a powerful impact, creating a calmer, more focused environment that is much more conducive to learning.

As part of the programme, you may remember that we requested your permission for your child to take part in anonymous surveys, which would help us assess our progress. We conducted these surveys last year in Term 3 and again in Term 2 of this academic year and we are thrilled to share with you some of the encouraging results from both staff and student surveys.

We are pleased to report that 75% of staff now believe that behaviour in the school is good or better. This is a significant improvement from the 19% of staff who felt this way a year ago. Furthermore, as part of our efforts to improve behaviour, the Senior Leadership Team has been actively present throughout the school and 90% of students reported seeing school leaders in their lessons most days/everyday, with 83% of staff agreeing with this.

Nearly all staff now feel that students understand the consequences of their actions, as a result of the new Behaviour Policy and 76% of students agree with this statement. Similarly, 78% of students now say they know how they are expected to behave and 76% of staff feel there is a shared understanding across the school of what good behaviour looks like. In fact, 69% of students reported that the school rules are easy to follow, with only 7% indicating they find them difficult.

While we are already seeing significant improvements, we are not stopping here. Our goal is to continue improving and we will not rest until we reach 100% in every area. We are committed to becoming an outstanding school and while the journey is ongoing, we are thrilled with the progress we have made.

We are also pleased to report that 66% of staff feel that the routines we've worked hard to embed throughout the school day have contributed significantly to the improvements in behaviour and 96% of staff now feel confident in managing behaviour effectively. We are confident that these factors will continue to drive further improvements in the future.

We wanted to share this important milestone with you and celebrate the fact that we have now graduated from the Behaviour Hubs programme with flying colours. This success is a result of the hard work and dedication of both our staff and students, and we are incredibly proud of the progress we have made

together. Good behaviour not only fosters a positive and respectful learning environment but also has a ripple effect that benefits the wider community. When students demonstrate kindness, responsibility and self-discipline, it creates a classroom atmosphere where everyone feels safe, valued and motivated to engage in their studies. Beyond the classroom, these positive behaviours contribute to a stronger community by promoting understanding, cooperation and a sense of shared responsibility, empowering individuals to make meaningful contributions both now and in the future.

In April 2023, Ofsted gave our school the unusual judgement of 'Good' but with 'Requires Improvement' for behaviour. This reflected their recognition that, while there was still progress to be made, 'leaders had already made substantial improvements'. Ofsted noted that 'leaders had worked hard to tackle these behaviours through increased pastoral support, staff training and the introduction of new systems and resources.' Since that time, we are proud to say that we have made great strides, building on the solid foundation identified by Ofsted and continuing to create a more positive and supportive environment for all.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout this journey. Your partnership has been vital and we look forward to working with you to ensure the continued success of our school.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs E Curtis
Assistant Headteacher, Behaviour & Attitudes

The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to finance@buckinghamschool.org, if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.