



21st May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Working Together – Standards and Expectations

At our school, we are always looking for ways to create the very best environment for learning — one that is calm, focused, respectful, and inclusive. With that in mind, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support and to reaffirm our shared commitment to the routines that help our students thrive.

We are sharpening our focus and reinforcing the routines that protect learning time and promote wellbeing. This is about raising the bar for consistency — because we CARE deeply about your children and their future. Nothing here is new, these expectations are already in our protocols and policies, we are simply improving the consistency of implementation.

Mobile Phones

One of the key routines we want to remind parents/carers and students of our **No Phone Zone**. This long-standing protocol remains in place to support every student's ability to concentrate, engage fully in school life, and build positive habits for the future.

Our No Phone Protocol:

- Phones must be switched off and stored securely at the bottom of bags for the entire school day, they cannot be in pocket.
- If a phone is seen or used, it will be held safely at Student Services until the end of the day.
- Repeated incidents will require a parent or carer to collect the phone in person.
- If a student refuses to hand over their phone, they will be referred to Reset, and a parent or carer will again need to collect it.

We know how important communication is. If your child needs to get in touch with home, we will always support them to do so. Similarly, if you need to contact your child during the school day, our office team is always here to help. Please do not contact your child directly during the school day.

The research is clear: reducing phone use in schools has real, measurable benefits for students' academic progress and mental wellbeing.

Here are just a few powerful examples:

- A 21-day phone break at The Stanway School saw a 17% drop in anxiety, 18% drop in symptoms of depression, and a 3% boost in memory.
- A London School of Economics study found that banning phones improved student test scores, with the greatest gains seen in students who needed the most support.
- Schools that have tightened up phone use policies report fewer conflicts, less bullying, and more engaged classrooms.

These outcomes matter. And with your continued support, we can ensure our school remains a place where every student can focus, grow, and succeed.

Uniform

We would also like to take a moment to revisit our **uniform expectations**. While the vast majority of students wear their uniform with pride each day, we are making sure our standards are upheld consistently across the board. Staff will continue to check uniform each morning at the main gate. If jewellery is seen after this point, it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. For repeated issues, items will need to be collected by a parent or carer.

Again, this is about building strong, consistent routines so that students and staff can direct their energy where it matters most: Students learning.

To make sure every student is absolutely clear on what is expected, Deputy Heads Mr Walker and Mr Davis have led assemblies throughout the week. These assemblies have been to communicate our shared standards with clarity and purpose, reinforcing the importance of routines that support everyone's success.

We are proud to work alongside you in creating a supportive, high-expectations culture. Please take a moment to speak with your child about why these protocols and expectations are in place and how they help all of us create the kind of school community we can all be proud of.

If you ever need support, have questions, or want to discuss anything further, please get in touch.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.

Yours faithfully,

Scott Garrity
Headteacher

Matt Walker
Deputy Headteacher

Kev Davis
Deputy Headteacher