

23rd January 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I do hope you are keeping well and have had a good start to 2022. Our worst fears about the Omicron variant seem not to have materialised so far and we've had a very positive first few weeks of term. This isn't to say that we aren't still facing considerable challenges. Staff absence – accentuated by people catching COVID or having to take time off school to look after their own children – makes covering lessons a daily challenge and I'm afraid that it is still possible that we may have to ask year groups to learn from home, though we will avoid this if possible and give you as much notice as we can if this becomes a necessity.

One of many positives is the launch of our new behavior expectations system which I explained in my letter in December. Students have largely responded extremely well to our new RESPECT expectations:

Respond to all reasonable instructions
Equipped to learn
Smartly presented
Punctual at all times
Effort 100%
Considerate to all
Talking only when permitted

The expectations are straightforward and make obvious sense. They provide clarity and students and staff are really benefiting from this. Students know where they stand, disruption to learning is reduced and there is greater consistency, which is our golden ticket to creating the excellent culture and ethos which our school community deserves.

There are a number of other initiatives that we are busy with which, all together, continue to strengthen and develop our school.

Projects and developments

We have signed up to be part of the Department of Education's 'Behaviour Hubs Programme' which enables us to access training and network with a range of schools nationally. I've included some more information about this at the end of this letter and, importantly, **there's a link to a consent form which I would be very grateful if you could follow and complete** (it will take around a minute of your time). We need your consent for an external company to collect survey data from our students (no personal details are collected, as the below explains). This will enable us to gauge our student's current experiences and use this information to further improve.

Together with all of the schools in our trust, we have signed up to the United Nation's '[Rights Respecting Schools Award](#)'. This is a programme which promotes the rights of children and, in UNICEF's own words, helps schools to 'create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive'. A more detailed letter explaining the programme will be sent to you shortly.

We are also training a number of Year 10 and 11 students as anti-bullying ambassadors using the Diana Award's '[Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme](#)'. Again, this all ties in to our way forward and determination to make our school as happy, safe and inspiring a place as possible to meet our vision and enable all to 'thrive, care and succeed'.

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Osprey
Learning Trust 



Trust expansion

You will hopefully have seen the joint letter from the CEO of our Osprey Learning Trust, Katy Quinn, and the CEO of the Estuaries Multi Academy Trust, Paul Cornish, about the plan to merge our two groups of schools. This potential merger is nothing but good news in my view as it will link us formally with two local secondary schools – Dawlish and Newton Abbot Colleges. We already work informally with these neighbours and the formal partnership will offer us greater opportunities in terms of talent sharing, collaboration and economies of scale.

COVID measures

We have removed the requirement to wear masks in school in light of the government and DfE's advice last week. However, there are still a steady number of pupils and staff picking up the virus. We will continue to keep all areas well ventilated, minimize the mixing of large groups, encourage regular sanitizing and, most importantly, continue to encourage the use of LFD tests at least twice a week. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

At the very end of this letter, after the information about the Behaviour Hubs Programme, there is a short letter from the School Age Immunisation Team about their plans to visit again later this term and offer vaccinations to as many students as they can who opt to do so and have parental consent.

Coming up

The Performing Arts team's production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' will take place in school on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th February. Years 7-10 will all get to see this during the day and there will be a live performance for parents with a smaller than usual audience on the evening of Friday 11th. A film of the performance will also be produced. It is a shame that we cannot hold the usual three, packed auditorium performances for the wider community but, all things considered, it is great that our many talented students are again able to perform and celebrate their ability!

Year 10 Parents' evening is on Thursday 10th February. This will be held virtually, with an online booking sheet to be sent out in a couple of weeks' time. We will, as usual, finish period 5 early at 2.45 on this day to enable as many teacher-parent appointments as possible.

Finally, there will be a Parents' Forum meeting on the evening of Tuesday 15th February. This will be held virtually and there will be an opportunity to post questions ahead of the meeting which I will respond to from 6.00pm onwards. A link to this and further information will be sent out closer to the time.

Best wishes



James O'Connell
Headteacher

Behaviour Hubs evaluation: information for parents/carers.

What is the research about?

The Behaviour Hubs programme began in Spring 2021 and will run for three years. It is a government-led programme to improve behaviour and behaviour practices in schools. The programme forms partnerships between schools and academies with outstanding behaviour and those that want to improve. The school that your child(ren)/the child(ren) in your care attends is being supported by the Behaviour Hubs programme as a partner school.

A research company called Ecorys (more information on us here: <https://uk.ecorys.com/>) have been asked by to carry out an evaluation of the Behaviour Hubs programme on behalf of DfE. The aim of the evaluation is to understand the effectiveness of the programme in improving behaviour practices in schools and achieving benefits for schools, staff and pupils.

What is the pupil survey?

For this part of the Behaviour Hubs evaluation, we are asking secondary school pupils to take part in a short pupil survey. The survey will be completed online within a classroom setting and supervised by a teacher or member of school staff. The survey will take around 8 minutes to complete.

The survey will ask pupils about their experiences of behaviour within their school; including school policies, the behaviour rules of the school and how they perceive the level of behaviour in their classrooms. The survey also includes a number of questions around pupil enjoyment of school, feelings of support, wellbeing and relationships with their peers and teachers. A pupil survey has been included within the evaluation as the experiences and perspectives of pupils are an important part of understanding the overall impact of the Behaviour Hubs programme. The survey will then be repeated after approximately 10 months to get a sense of change over time.

How will the evaluation use this data?

The results of the survey will be returned to the school as an anonymised report with all the pupil responses. The schools can use these results to understand how their students feel about behaviour in school, as well as for their Behaviour Hubs action plans (for example setting goals). The results of the survey will also be used for the evaluation; included within a report which the evaluators will write for the Government. The report will not name any schools, pupils or staff members.

Is it private?

All answers provided by pupils will be **confidential and anonymous**, meaning they will not be identifiable. Pupils will NOT be asked to provide their name. Pupils will only be asked to give their school year, gender and key stage. We will collect and process survey data in line with GDPR and will not identify individuals in any outputs produced. Ecorys adheres to high ethical research standards and the Data Protection Act 2018 (including GDPR) when processing any data collected as part of this project. You can read more about your data rights, if you wish to do so, on the **Privacy Notice** on the next page. A full privacy notice can be requested from the evaluation team (see contact email address below).

What happens next?

If you would like any further information or have any questions at this stage, please email the project team evaluationbhubs@ecorys.com. If you are happy that your child/child in your care can take part, please follow the link to complete the consent form: [HERE](#)

The Research Team, Ecorys UK



Pupil surveys in the evaluation of the Behaviour Hubs programme

Privacy Notice

How we collect and use your personal information

The Department for Education is the data controller for the personal information you may provide and has asked Ecorys UK to collect and process this information on their behalf. The legal basis for processing your personal data is the consent that you have provided to take part in the research activities. Responses will remain confidential. Anonymous information will be used for reports, publications, and presentations. The results of the evaluation will be shared through national reports and via social media and potentially other publicity channels. You will not be identifiable in this information.

Your data protection rights and how we protect your personal information

Your rights are set out in the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) and GDPR, which is designed to protect and support the personal data rights for all in the UK. These include:

- **the right to be informed** about who is collecting and processing your data, we set this out above;
- **the right of access**, to understand what information about you is being used and how; and
- **the right to withdraw consent**, at any time you can ask us to delete your personal information and no longer be included in the interviews.

The data (responses to the pupil survey) will be stored on internal servers managed by Ecorys. This personal information (pupil gender, age, school) as well as responses to other questions detailed in this document. Only a small number of people will have access to this data. Your data will not be shared with anyone else, and it will be securely destroyed after the evaluation has finished.

We will not move or share information about you outside the EU and it will be held securely at all times. If there are any problems with our handling of your data, we will notify you and the organisation that is responsible for regulating this where we are legally required to do so.

There are other rights not listed here and exemptions may apply. For more details see here: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-reform/overview-of-the-gdpr/individuals-rights/> or contact our Data Protection Officer.

How to contact us

If you have, any concerns or questions about the interview please contact Ecorys at: evaluationbhubs@ecorys.com. For more information or to exercise your data protection rights please contact our Data Protection Officer at Ecorys UK, Albert House, Quay Place, 92-93 Edward Street, Birmingham, B1 2RA.

Your right to complain

If you are unhappy about how your personal data has been used, please contact us using the details for our Data Protection Officer above. You can also contact the Information Commissioner's Officer via their website at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or at www.ico.org.uk/concerns

LETTER FROM THE SCHOOL AGE IMMUNISATION SERVICE (SAIS)

Dear parents and carers,

You will be aware that your children aged 12-15 are now eligible to receive two doses of the Covid-19 vaccination. If your child needs a first dose you can still book an appointment through the national booking service. Second dose appointments are also now available and this appointment needs to be 12 weeks after the first vaccine or 12 weeks after a positive Covid-19 test.

The school aged immunisation service will be attending most schools between February and April to vaccinate eligible children, where we have a positive consent and will be offering first and second doses. However, in the meantime if your child is due a first dose or is already eligible and you would like to access their 2nd dose vaccine via your local vaccine centres, they currently have plenty of capacity outside of school hours; this can be booked via the National Booking System now by following this link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/> or by calling 119.

Greendale in Exeter is offering walk-in centres for this age group in the evenings and at weekends. Please note that several local vaccine centres are now also offering vaccines for this age group so no one should have to travel too far to receive these vaccines. Also, please note the centres will adapt their clinics to meet the needs of the population so if you cannot initially book an appointment in your local centre, please do keep trying as more will become released regularly.

The School Aged Immunisation Programme will also be continuing to offer Immunisations for HPV, DTP, MenACWY and Flu alongside providing Covid-19 vaccinations. The programme is changing to meet requests from NHS England and to meet local need. We will be in touch with details of sessions at your child's school throughout the academic year.

Best wishes

School Age Immunisation Team