



Our reference: CTALET7/LH

2nd October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Respect for others; use of foul and abusive language**

Recently, I wrote to you about school expectations regarding behaviour and safety, based on the 3 rules of:

- READY
- RESPECTFUL
- SAFE

This week, I am writing to you again on a connected but slightly different matter, based on being respectful. Like many other establishments such as doctors' surgeries, hospitals, libraries; we have a zero-abuse expectation. Visitors to the school are expected to be courteous and polite towards staff and this expectation is reciprocated back towards our visitors; we have the same expectation of our students.

Staff at Clacton County High School work extremely hard, they come to their place of work to do an exceptionally difficult but rewarding job of supporting and educating your children. Therefore, it is very upsetting and disappointing when they encounter significant verbal abuse from a very small minority of students. This also impacts on all of the other children in school and is unacceptable on any level.

Students who verbally abuse staff or other students are in serious and significant breach of the school's Behaviour for Learning policy and we cannot accept this type of behaviour in our school or within our community.

It is important that this is something that we address together, that we form a partnership of home and school working together to promote respect and kindness and consideration towards all others, both inside and outside of school. Inside the school we include our neighbours as well as all staff, visitors and volunteers. Outside of school, a child's behaviour is the responsibility of the parents/carers, however, if a child is in uniform they are representing the school and the expectations of our Behaviour for Learning policy still apply.

When a student is involved in such an incident at school, we will contact their parents directly to inform them of the language used by their child. Consequences issued are intended to allow for reflection and to help them recognise the impact that their verbal abuse has on others, either directly or indirectly.

We want all of our students to grow into responsible and respectful citizens, therefore, I am confident that I can rely on your support to impress upon your child that they should not accept anyone verbally abusing them in school, likewise no student should verbally abuse a teacher or another student. Any reported incidents will be dealt with swiftly and robustly.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

Yours faithfully

*C Taylor*

Chris Taylor  
Head of School