

Headteacher: Mr D. Whales | Chair of Governors: Mr A. Brown

20th March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following on from Mr Whales' letter last week, I wanted to share some further information about how we are continuing to develop our relational approach across the school. As part of this, we place great emphasis on positive, respectful, and supportive interactions with both students and their families. When expectations are understood and shared, it enables us to focus on the meaningful conversations that help young people feel confident, connected and ready to learn.

We are already seeing the sustained positive impact of the changes we have made across the school. This year alone, we have seen almost a 40% reduction in fixed-term suspensions and almost a 40% reduction in the number of internal exclusions. These improvements reflect the joint efforts of our staff, students, and families, and demonstrate how consistency, clarity and relationships work together to create a positive school culture.

A key element of this work is ensuring that our school environment remains calm, consistent and purposeful. To achieve this, we need our time and attention to be centred on helping students learn, progress, and build positive relationships – not on addressing easily avoidable issues such as incorrect uniform or presentation. We therefore ask for your continued support in ensuring your child meets our uniform expectations. This includes:

- **Avoiding non-natural hair colours**, such as bright or unconventional dye.
- **Not having additional piercings** or other items of jewellery that are not in line with the uniform policy.
- **Ensuring students wear their blazer, tie, and full uniform each day**, unless advised otherwise by the school.

We do recognise that during periods of hot or extreme weather, it is appropriate to temporarily relax certain uniform expectations, so students remain comfortable and safe. When such adjustments are made, we will always communicate this clearly and in good time. Until then, the full uniform should be worn consistently. Could I ask that you remind your children that the black jumper is an optional part of the school uniform – the school blazer is not.

As part of our relational approach, we also run our Kick Start programme three times throughout the year. This revisits key routines, expectations and shared values with all students. The aim is to help every young person understand how they contribute positively to the school community, how their choices shape their success, and how we support them in making those positive choices every day. The programme reinforces consistency while providing structured opportunities to reset, realign and strengthen our shared culture.

Headteacher: Damien Whales, Ken Stimpson Academy is a school within the Four Cs Multi-Academy Trust (MAT)

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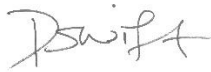
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Thank you, as always, for your support. It plays a vital role in sustaining the progress we are making and in building the positive, relational school environment we want for every young person.

Kind regards,



Mr P Swift
Deputy Headteacher

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