



8th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Supporting the School with Inappropriate Language

Students are expected to demonstrate the school value of respect by respecting their teachers' authority, the school rules, and all members of the community.

As our Year 8 students continue to grow and develop, they are increasingly exposed to a wide range of influences, particularly through social media, music, and online platforms. Unfortunately, this sometimes includes inappropriate language, discriminatory terms, or offensive phrases. Often, children may not fully understand the meaning or implications of what they hear, yet may repeat these words in school without realising the harm they can cause.

At Ashmole Academy, we are committed to educating our students about equality, respect, and inclusion. Through our curriculum and assemblies, we promote the values of kindness, mutual respect, and fairness. However, this responsibility does not lie with the school alone. Parents and carers also have a vital role in teaching their children about racism, misogyny, and the importance of treating all people equally. These messages are most effective when consistently reinforced both at home and in school.

As a school, you can appreciate that we cannot use or directly discuss such derogatory terms or phrases to educate your child. We therefore ask, sensitively, that you have these conversations at home. Going through words or phrases they may encounter, explaining their meaning, and discussing why such language is offensive and unacceptable will help your child build the understanding and empathy they need to make positive choices. We must make clear that we will not tolerate any form of unkindness or derogatory language towards others. It is therefore very important to stress that if these words or phrases are used in school, they will be treated as a serious matter. Your child may face a significant sanction, such as placement in our Individual Learning Room or a suspension. I am sure you can therefore appreciate the importance of an aligned approach in providing this education to your child.

To support this further, the school will be running a series of workshops on kindness as part of this ongoing education. A separate letter will be sent to you in due course with further details.

By working together, both at home and in school, we can ensure our young people develop into respectful, considerate individuals who contribute positively to our community.

Yours faithfully

Mrs R McLaren
Deputy Head Teacher

