

Dear Parent/Carers,

I am writing to you in advance of my new role as Headteacher at Huxlow Academy after half term. It is a true privilege to take up this position as we make strides towards becoming a school we are all incredibly proud to be a part of.

Today, I want to highlight some positive changes that will celebrate the many students who embody 'The Huxlow Way' and live our values of Ambition, Respect, and Pride every day.

Having spent several years at Huxlow, my priority remains to ensure that every young person who walks through our doors receives the best educational experience and memorable opportunities. I believe this is underpinned by providing high levels of care and pastoral support to students, as well as having high expectations of everyone that makes up our Huxlow community.

Mr Letch leaves behind a legacy of #TheHuxlowWay and our core values of Respect, Ambition, and Pride will continue to be central to school life. I am fortunate to build upon this legacy, raising expectations to ensure that all our students 'thrive through excellence.'

To achieve this, our staff have been working diligently on our big reset after the half-term break, focusing on students who demonstrate 'The Huxlow Way' and strive for excellence in everything they do.

We will be introducing a planner and stamp system to reward those who exhibit positive behaviours and attitudes toward learning. The planner will also help us identify students who need support in meeting classroom and school expectations. This week in assemblies, I am sharing these positive changes with students to ensure we have high expectations for how we look and act around school.

The Student [Behaviour Policy](#) explains this in more detail. Key points include:

- Positive behaviours for learning will be rewarded every lesson with either a 'Subject' stamp or a 'Yellow Star' stamp. There will be regular rewards to recognise those demonstrating The Huxlow Way.
- If a student is not demonstrating expected behaviours, they will receive a verbal reminder to support them to be back on track.
- Continued low-level issues will result in a 'You Can Do Better' (YCDB) given by the teacher. This can be earned off during the lesson. If it is not, the student will owe a 10-minute reset at lunch.
- Ongoing unacceptable behaviour will lead to a 'Not In Line' (NIL) from the teacher, resulting in a 20-minute reset at lunch.
- Students receiving a 20-minute reset at lunch will still have a 30-minute lunch break.
- The expectations regarding mobile phones and ear pods remain unchanged. These should not be seen or heard, or they will be confiscated.

Regarding uniform, standards have slipped, with many students not adhering to our policy or high expectations. I have reminded students that how we look affects how we act and we must work together to ensure the highest standards at Huxlow. There are no significant

changes to the uniform for the rest of the academic year, but some adjustments for September. The revised policy can be found [here](#) . Changes include:

Uniform and student presentation from 3rd June 2024:

- Blazers are compulsory for all students
- Jumpers are optional
- Black shoes/Air Force style (until September only)
- Tube skirts are not permitted (no change to our old policy)
- All skirts must be knee-length and worn with thick black tights
- No false lashes (light makeup is permitted)
- One set of studs in ears (no hoops)
- One clear nose stud (no rings)
- No false nails
- Neutral nail polish (neutral colours)
- No coming to school in PE kit; all students will now change at school.

Uniform and presentation from September 2024:

- Black polishable shoes. No sports brands. Leather or leather-look. Air Force will not be permitted.
- Black pleated skirt only available from our uniform supplier Karlsports.

These changes have been shared with older year groups, who have responded well and recognise the need for us to strive for excellence. I hope to have the support of parents as we continue on our journey where only excellence is good enough for our children.

If you have any queries regarding changes to the Behaviour Policy or Uniform Policy, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Kim Isaksen  
Deputy Head Teacher