



Friday 20th May 2022

Dear parent/carer,

SUBJECT: Year 7 and 8 Expectations

I would like to thank you for your continued support. The resilience and determination shown by so many of our pupils has really impressed us given the repeated Covid lockdowns. There have been almost 20,000 positives given out to Year 7 and Year 8 alone since September and we would like to thank all the pupils who have contributed to these successes.

It has certainly been a difficult time for all pupils during the Covid pandemic, and this has been the case, particularly for Year 7s and Year 8s. Pupils across the country have missed the 'normal' transition from primary to secondary and have found it difficult at times to readapt to school expectations.

Whilst group work and collaboration are highly effective forms of learning, there is a need sometimes to offer a more reflective learning environment and it is essential that we lay the foundation now for continued success here at Risedale.

Over the next two school weeks, from Monday 23rd May until Friday 10th June, we will have a clear focus on reinforcing key learning expectations and rebuilding effective learning habits.

Simple Respectful Approach

- A. Teachers will continue to offer engaging and interesting lessons and continue to interact positively with all pupils
- B. Pupils will enter their classrooms, and stand behind their chairs in silence, getting their equipment ready for learning
- C. Unless explicitly told otherwise by a teacher, pupils will be conducting their learning silently, in a respectful and focused manner
- D. Pupils will obviously be allowed to ask questions of teachers, however, this will be done with a simple hands-up with no calling out
- E. There will also be opportunities to answer questions. Should a pupil wish to answer a question, then they will calmly put their hand up and wait for the teacher to say their name
- F. Pupils will move around the school in a calm, and orderly manner

Clear, Consistent Rewards and Sanctions

- **Warning:** Staff will issue an immediate, calm and CLEAR warning, upon any incident of inappropriate, non-silent/off-task behaviour. Pupils will be given appropriate take-up time and support where required to understand these expectations.
- **Sanction:** We will take the pupil to a quiet, staffed break-out room, should inappropriate behaviour continue. They will continue their learning in this room and reflect on their behaviours. We will then get in touch with you directly should this happen to discuss, and where required, put the relevant support in place
- **Reward:** Pupils will continue to be rewarded for their excellent contributions and we will hold regular reward assemblies to celebrate these positives

I would appreciate your support in this matter, ultimately all pupils will benefit from this consistent approach. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or concerns about this or indeed any matter about your child's education here at Risedale.

Yours sincerely,

 **Mr J Yates** Deputy Headteacher

