John Spence
COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a restful half-term break. The start of a new term provides a valuable opportunity to reflect on our students' impressive achievements so far and to refocus on our goals for the weeks ahead.

Our collective priority in Autumn 2 will be on improving the consistency of the classroom environment, to ensure every lesson is a calm, distraction-free environment where every student can thrive.

While the vast majority of students meet our expectations every day by working hard and being considerate around school, we do recognise that there are still a few cases where low level disruption is preventing students from doing their best work in lessons. Students were very clear in their feedback to me that their experience across the day can differ from one lesson to the next. Our aim is to ensure that every lesson at John Spence is calm, purposeful and hardworking.

In assemblies this morning, I spoke to every student about our collective focus and outlined our expectations. You can see some of the key slides used in the assembly overleaf - I hope this is useful for you to see our messaging in more detail. I also hope this will be helpful for you when supporting and reinforcing our expectations at home - we always appreciate your support.

I want to be clear that we are not changing our behaviour policy—which undergoes formal review in March—but are reinforcing it with greater positivity, clarity and consistency. Staff will support this using proactive reminders, formal warnings, call-backs, and lesson removals when necessary, alongside targeted measures to track lateness and maximise learning time.

One change we are making is the amount of time a student spends in the behaviour centre following a lesson removal. From this point forward, if a student is removed from a lesson for persistent disruption, they will remain in the behaviour centre for two lessons, including either break or lunch. They will then return to lessons. If a student is removed from period 5, they will remain in the behaviour centre for 30 minutes at the end of the day and return to lessons the following morning. This approach provides students with a space to reflect on their behaviour and correct it before returning to lessons, whilst also prioritising their time in lessons. Any serious behaviour incidents will be reviewed and lead to a full day out of circulation in the behaviour centre.

We will be working hard as a group of staff to implement this approach positively and consistently, and we will have more leadership presence around lessons over the coming weeks to provide positive support and reinforcement.

I am confident that we will see a significant improvement as a result, and am looking forward to hearing from students about the positive impact this has on their learning and enjoyment of lessons.

Headteacher Ms Katie Marshall
John Spence Community High School, Preston Road, North Shields, NE29 9PU.

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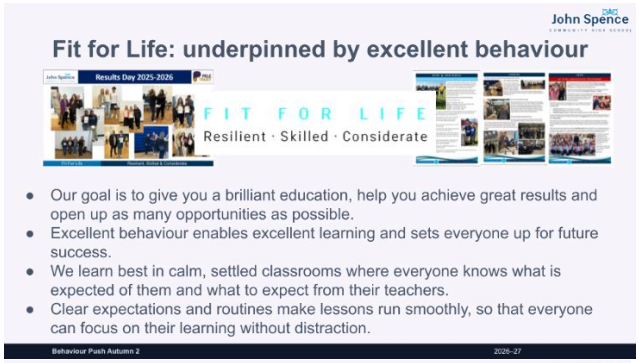
As with anything in school, the best outcomes happen when we adopt a joint effort between students, staff, and families. We greatly appreciate your continued support in reinforcing these expectations at home and welcome your questions and feedback.

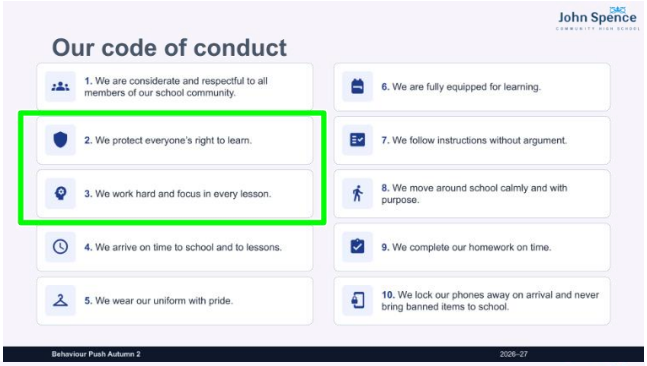
Yours faithfully,

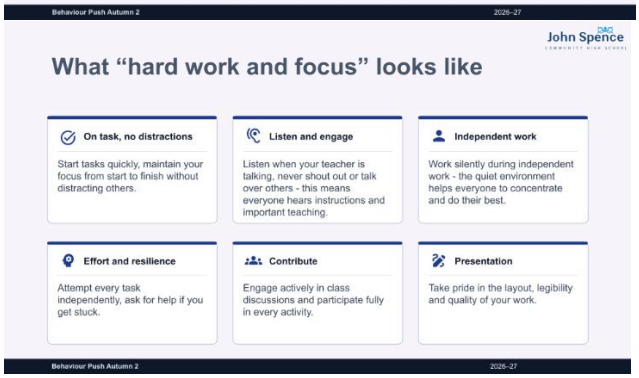


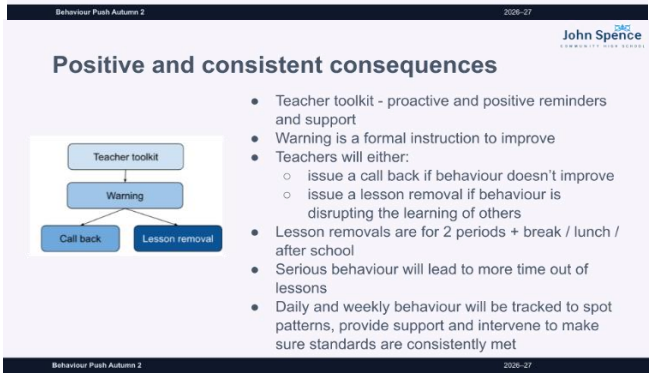
Katie Marshall
Headteacher
John Spence Community High School

Creating an optimal learning environment is a joint effort, and we greatly appreciate your continued support in reinforcing these expectations at home. Below are key slides from today's assembly for reference.









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