



21st June 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

Use of Inappropriate Language

The past two weeks or so have seen increased levels of time being spent by adults in school managing and having restorative discussions following children's inappropriate use of language. Often this language is not 'high level' but it remains inappropriate and unacceptable. Often the language is not directed in an abusive way towards others but it remains inappropriate and unacceptable. Often the language does not see many others exposed to it but it remains inappropriate and unacceptable.

Sometimes children's dysregulation sees them expressing their feelings using inappropriate language. As a school whose ethos and values sit firmly upon the value of relationships and the need to support children's social and emotional development we stand ready to support any child through moments of dysregulation. We do not however believe that inappropriate language is an acceptable way of expressing ourselves even in the most difficult of moments.

Where inappropriate language is high level and abusive our typical response is to engage parents and seek their support in managing their children's future behaviour. These discussions often elicit that the children involved do not use such language at home as it is unacceptable. This language is unacceptable at school as well.

Inappropriate language offends and often scares children – it can make them feel unsafe. Children should not be exposed to or use this language, whether at home or school – it is unacceptable.

I am dropping you a line to seek your support in ensuring that our school environment is one where inappropriate language is not used. **I would ask you to talk to your children about the unacceptability of inappropriate language – you don't want it at home, and we don't want it in school.**

We will be talking to children over the coming days about the use of inappropriate language, and over the coming weeks we will be sharing **any** use of inappropriate language to parents in an effort to empower parents and families to be aware and to respond to children using such language. In the event of higher level inappropriate language being used in an abusive manner I will never rule out more significant logical actions being taken.

Haytor View is a happy place to learn – it is a safe place for children to develop, enjoy successes, and learn from mistakes. It is a place where we seek to ensure that every child is seen as an individual and has their needs met. It is not an environment where inappropriate language is ever acceptable.

Thanks for your support in maintaining the values and environment that we all wish to share.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Hampton
Head Teacher