



23rd September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our school community. Your partnership is vital in creating a positive environment where our children can thrive both academically and socially.

At St Matthew's we follow a **Positive Relationships and Behaviour Policy**, which is supported by our **Behaviour Curriculum** and a clear **flow chart** for managing behaviour. These documents outline the high expectations we hold for all children, and the consistent steps staff take to encourage positive behaviour and address issues fairly.

Rewards and Team Dojo

We are delighted with how our **Team Point Dojo system**, which celebrates teamwork and motivates pupils to demonstrate positive behaviour. Each child (and staff member) is part of one of our four teams:

- **Archer (Red)**
- **Wilkinson (Green)**
- **Braddock (Yellow)**
- **Chavasse (Blue)**

It has been lovely to see children wearing their team colours for PE. Staff have noted the positive effect this has had in building teamwork, sportsmanship and pride across the school. Weekly team totals are shared in our Praise Assembly, and each half term the winning team enjoys a special reward chosen by the children themselves. This year's rewards are:

- **Autumn 1** – Disco and sweets
- **Autumn 2** – Takeaway and movie day
- **Spring 1** – Trip to Croxteth Park
- **Spring 2** – Ice cream and extra playtime
- **Summer 1** – Cinema trip
- **Summer 2** – Picnic and sports games at Windsor Gardens

Clear Expectations Around Behaviour

Our policy is clear: **behaviour that disrupts learning is unacceptable**. While we always give children opportunities to reflect, repair and rebuild, we cannot allow refusals or persistent disruption to prevent learning for others e.g – talking over the teacher, questions adults reasons, making noises constantly, talking to and disrupting others.



Unfortunately, we have noticed an increasing number of children refusing to complete tasks or choosing to engage in activities of their own preference instead of the set curriculum. To be absolutely clear:

- Refusals are not acceptable and will not be tolerated.
- Children are always given time to think and the chance to make the correct choice.
- If refusal continues, a member of SLT will be called.
- The SLT member will explain the choices again and provide a five-minute thinking period.
- If the refusal continues, the child will either complete work at the SLT desk or parents will receive a phone call.
- Parents will be expected to meet with SLT if behaviour does not improve.
- If the same child refuses again on the same day, parents will be called into school and sanctions will be applied.
- Repeated refusal may result in exclusion, followed by a reintegration meeting and an agreed plan for improvement.

Please note that all staff adapt work appropriately to meet the needs of pupils, including those with SEND, so refusal to work cannot be excused on this basis.

Working Together

We are committed to ensuring that every child is given a fresh start each day and the support they need to succeed. At the same time, we rely on your support in reinforcing our high expectations at home.

Attached to this letter you will find:

- The **Positive Behaviour and Relationships Policy**
- The **Behaviour Flow Chart**
- **Rewards overview**
- An overview of our **Behaviour Curriculum**

Together, these explain how we promote positive behaviour, reward success, and deal with issues consistently and fairly.

Thank you once again for your support in helping us ensure St Matthew's remains a safe, respectful, and nurturing place where all children can love, learn and shine.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sime

Headteacher