



Thomas Hall School Cowley Bridge Road,
Thomas Hall,
Exeter,
Devon,
EX4 5AD

Telephone: 01392 757371

Email: reception@thomashallschool.org

Website: <https://www.thomashallschool.org/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past year, we've been working to build a stronger and more inclusive platform for celebrating our students and recognising their achievements. Building on the success of our Primary Phase's Friday Celebration Assembly, which has run inclusively for the past three years, we are now extending this initiative into the Secondary Phase, starting this Friday.

Led by Mr Housden and Miss Day, the Secondary Celebration Assembly will provide regular opportunities to recognise students who are making progress across a wide range of areas. Our aim is to create a positive and inclusive end to each week, celebrating both individual and team successes.

In line with the school's behaviour policy, we will use consistent themes of recognition, including:

- Reward Points
- Attendance
- Engagement Scale
- Improvements from the previous week
- Sporting or performance achievements

In addition to these, we are keen to celebrate the diverse interests and achievements of our students beyond the classroom. If your child has taken part in an activity or achieved something outside of school that you would like us to acknowledge, please email the details to reception@thomashallschool.org.

We've worked with staff to strengthen the accuracy and purpose of the student engagement scale. Teachers will take into account any additional needs and apply adjustments based on annual review information and evidence-based strategies shared by our SEN team.

This approach supports a fair and inclusive system that recognises effort, progress, and engagement across the school.

In deciding which criteria applies to each student, teaching staff will take into account the student's special educational needs and disability and the need to make reasonable adjustments so that all students can access learning adequately supported. Teaching staff will take into account ILP or Narrate and Curate guidance alongside the information contained in EHCPs for specific students as

appropriate. Inclusive strategies and interventions will be used where appropriate. Before a decision is made on the correct criteria for the student, teaching staff will have considered underlying causes (e.g. SEN, disability, anxiety, sensory overload, other needs) and ensure reasonable adjustments are in place to support participation. Teaching staff will consider each student individually and in the context of their needs.

A breakdown of the engagement criteria can be found below:

- **0 – Absent** - Not present in the learning environment
- **1 - Removed from Lesson** - Removed due to behaviour in line with the school's behaviour policy.
- **2 - Poor Engagement** - Minimal participation. Student was present but showed limited engagement with the learning. This may include refusal, distraction, or withdrawal.
- **3 - Satisfactory Engagement** – Student engaged with the lesson at a functional level. At times, may not follow clear instruction and become a distraction or be distracted.
- **4 – Good Engagement** – Student showed consistent engagement, responded to tasks, and participated appropriately. Reflects positive engagement with learning and environment.
- **5 - Exceptional Engagement** – Student demonstrated high levels of motivation, independence, and contribution. This may include leadership, creativity, or resilience. Teaching staff will be aware and recognise that for some pupils with SEND, reaching this level may require significant support and adaptation or that in view of their specific needs, reaching a high level for them may look different to what other students without a disability may demonstrate.

The Engagement Scale will be used as part of our regular Friday celebration assembly for secondary students.

Students will be made aware of the expectations under the Engagement Scale by their class tutor, teachers and through whole school assemblies.

If you have any questions about the Engagement Scale or any other matters in this letter, please contact our school office.

Yours sincerely,



Phil Arnold
Headteacher