

18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we embark on a new year, I am delighted to re-share a summary of our Approach to Learning (Atol) criteria. Our commitment to creating disruption-free classrooms is focussed on creating world class learning opportunities for all students.

It is important to note that these criteria have developed over time as we continue to embed high aspirations amongst our students. At this point, it is important to highlight that a student's approach to learning is not a direct measure of their behaviour in lessons, but instead a measure of their effort and commitment to learning. As we strive for the best possible atmosphere across all lessons, we are keen for all learners to be involved in the learning and this is demonstrated by a **Grade 3** in the criteria below. You will see that a student that is meeting the Grade 1 & 2 criteria is going above and beyond and will be someone that is actively seeking opportunities to develop their understanding both in and out of lessons.

A slight change may be unexpected for some, given the continued positive shift in our ambitious criteria. We believe in the potential of every student and anticipate that with time, understanding, and support, all students will be able to improve their Atol score. Our aim is to encourage continuous growth and development. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. We value your partnership in your child's education and are excited about the progress we will make together.

This information has been provided to support parents/carers with the publication of the first set of Atol's this year. Students will spend time next week reflecting on their scores. A reminder that this data will be published on a total of three occasions this year.

### **Atol Score of 1: The Gold Standard (GOLD)**

In the key areas of Tenacity, Optimism, Respect, Curiosity, and Hard Work, students showcase an exceptional level of focus, self-motivation, and a proactive spirit in uplifting work through red pen notations, listening intently to viewpoints of others. They consistently arrive on time, eager to learn, always attempt every question, and respond positively to challenges. Their behaviour is nothing short of exemplary, actively engaging with staff and peers, demonstrating the PROUD presentation, and even extending their learning beyond school hours by completing extra work and making connections across subjects. Students complete all learning activities to the best of their ability, independently

revisiting knowledge without being asked. It is expected that only a handful of students will be able to achieve this score in each year group.

**Atol Score of 2: Silver**

Students exhibit a high level of focus, self-motivation, and a commendable effort in uplifting their work through red pen notations. They consistently arrive on time, eager to learn, and diligently attempt every question given. Their behaviour is excellent, actively participating in the PROUD presentation and engaging with staff and peers. Students, complete all work set and pose well-considered questions on a regular basis. They consistently complete all learning activities to the best of their ability.

**Atol Score of 3: Bronze**

Students maintain a good level of focus, self-motivation, and uplift work with red pen notations with guidance from their teacher. They arrive on time, willing to attempt every question, and exhibit good behaviour by listening actively to staff and peers. Students demonstrate steady progress and ask good questions. They usually complete all learning activities to the best of their ability.

**Atol Score of 4: Working towards**

Students will show willingness to learn, but can sometimes be reluctant to start tasks and may have to be encouraged through the use of positive framing to engage with the activity. Students are known to get it right, however, are not consistent in the lessons, and may have to be reminded, which limits their own learning and can impact upon the learning of others.

Warm regards,

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