



Principal's Update



2nd October 2026



Meet our Positive Behaviour and Learning Manager

Molly studied Psychology and Counselling at Roehampton University, where she gained a keen interest in attachment theory, social and behavioural psychology, understanding trauma, and autism. Following this, she began her career in education in SEND, starting as a teaching and behavioural support assistant in a specialist school for boys with complex needs. She then worked in the SEND department of a Grammar School developing and delivering 1:1 and group interventions around social, emotional mental health and communication and interaction for students with SEND. Molly then moved to Barnsley where she was a Head of Year for 180 students in a mixed comprehensive school before becoming Assistant SENDCo in the same setting.

Fun facts about Molly:

- One of her favourite hobbies is doing makeup, especially creative and colourful looks.
- She loves animals and has been vegan for almost 10 years.
- She is originally from Ashford in Kent but met her best friend who is from Barnsley years ago, which resulted in her making the choice to move up north.
- She loves films, music, art and dad jokes.

Student Celebration

We would like to say a big well done to some of our students this week:

The first is Jessica, who has done a fantastic job so far in her Scouting volunteer journey with the Beaver section, she is enjoying her time with them and is called Hedgehog!



The second is Taylor W and Sam U, they did a phenomenal job together working through their break on the new tills in Parker's Café, which they used independently. A massive well done to them.



Buddy the Otter

This week, Vanisha has given Buddy to Kayleigh Gray, saying, "Kayleigh is always a massive helping hand to anyone who needs it. She has always been a voice of reason for staff and is someone who can problem solve almost anything. Kayleigh has helped me so much over the past few months, and through that, I have really seen how student-focused and dedicated she is. She always puts students first and goes above and beyond to support both staff and students. She's just amazing!"



Communication and Wellbeing

4 students from Communication and Wellbeing have received stars of the week certificates this week. These are for personal achievements as well as work completed within their sessions. Congratulations to Owen W, Hannah J, Henry and Ella!



Tutor Groups

The larger tutor groups have continued to work positively this week, with students engaging well in a range of activities including role play in Equality and Diversity, Digital Essentials, and Careers sessions. It has been great to see students participating, sharing their ideas, and remaining involved throughout the activities.

Staff have worked hard to keep students focused, motivated, and on task, which has contributed to a positive atmosphere across the tutor groups. The improved engagement and willingness of students to take part in discussions and activities is fantastic to see and reflects the commitment of staff in supporting students to achieve their best.

Student Voice

A huge congratulations to all the students who were elected to be a part of our Student Voice! We are excited to announce that our new Chair of student voice is Kai and our Vice Chair is Kieran.

Thank you to everyone who put themselves forward and to all those who took part in voting. We can't wait to see all the amazing ideas that you will bring throughout the year!

