



Excellence, compassion & respect for all

FRAMWELLGATE  
SCHOOL DURHAM

November 2018

Dear Parent or Carer

We are always keen to respond to our student voice and recently one of our wonderful year 9 Prefects wrote a letter to the Headteacher outlining her concerns with the toilets in school. As part of our response, I met with the student and we carried out an inspection of all student toilets in school (The Head delegates all of the best jobs to his Deputy!) Our findings were that a **small** number of repairs were required by the site team, but in addition to this, it is clear that a small minority of students are misusing the facilities and unfortunately making them unpleasant for others. Whilst we suffer from the disadvantage of being housed in an older building, it is of the utmost importance to us, that we as a community take responsibility for, and respect our environment. Our site team work tirelessly to maintain a very large site and it can be very disheartening to see mindless damage to such areas.

With this in mind, we are planning to implement a new system for toilet access that many schools use. The toilets will remain locked during lesson time and student reception will hold a key. Students will be asked to sign out the key, and then return it to student reception after toilet use. We encourage the majority of students to only use the toilets at break and lunchtime, but teachers do have the ability to provide an individual student sign out pass (available in student planners) should a toilet visit be required during lesson time. We have asked all Heads of Year to speak to any students who require more frequent visits to the toilet to alert students of this new system in advance of it being implemented. In addition to this, Heads of Year will also grant permission to some individuals who have additional needs to use the stand-alone toilet housed in the pastoral area. If your child may be affected by these changes and you feel the Head of Year is not yet aware of them, please do get in touch with the relevant Head of Year to provide details so we can support any individuals. This new system will start on Monday 3rd December.

In addition to this, we have closed the toilets in the gym corridor so that they can undergo a deep clean and repairs can be carried out. Toilets will continue to be available in A block and B block and we will also carry out repairs as soon as is practicable in these areas. We intend to monitor the toilets over lunchtimes and break times to ensure that they are kept clean and tidy with regular drop ins from duty staff. Food will not be allowed in these areas. Any further misuse of these areas will result in students being sanctioned accordingly and any wilful physical damage may result in an invoice for repair to parents.

Finally, we would as always ask for your support in implementing this new system. Our primary concern is to support our students in making sure they are aware of the new procedures and that they can access clean, tidy and damage free facilities; we do believe that all students have the right to hygienic facilities and we would ask all parents to reinforce our message of respecting our environment.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

*Jane Rayson*

Jane Rayson  
Deputy Headteacher