1. *You must wear a blazer. Black V neck jumpers are optional, blazers are not. They must be worn at all times in the building.*

2. *No hoodies to be brought to school at all. These will be confiscated on sight.*

3. *No coats to be worn in the building.*

4. *Please be considerate of noise levels in the corridors. Year 11 and 13 students are soon to begin hugely important exams and it is important that we are all mindful of volume levels so not to disrupt examinations that are very soon to start.*

Students were reminded of standards and expectations for this term around the school building.
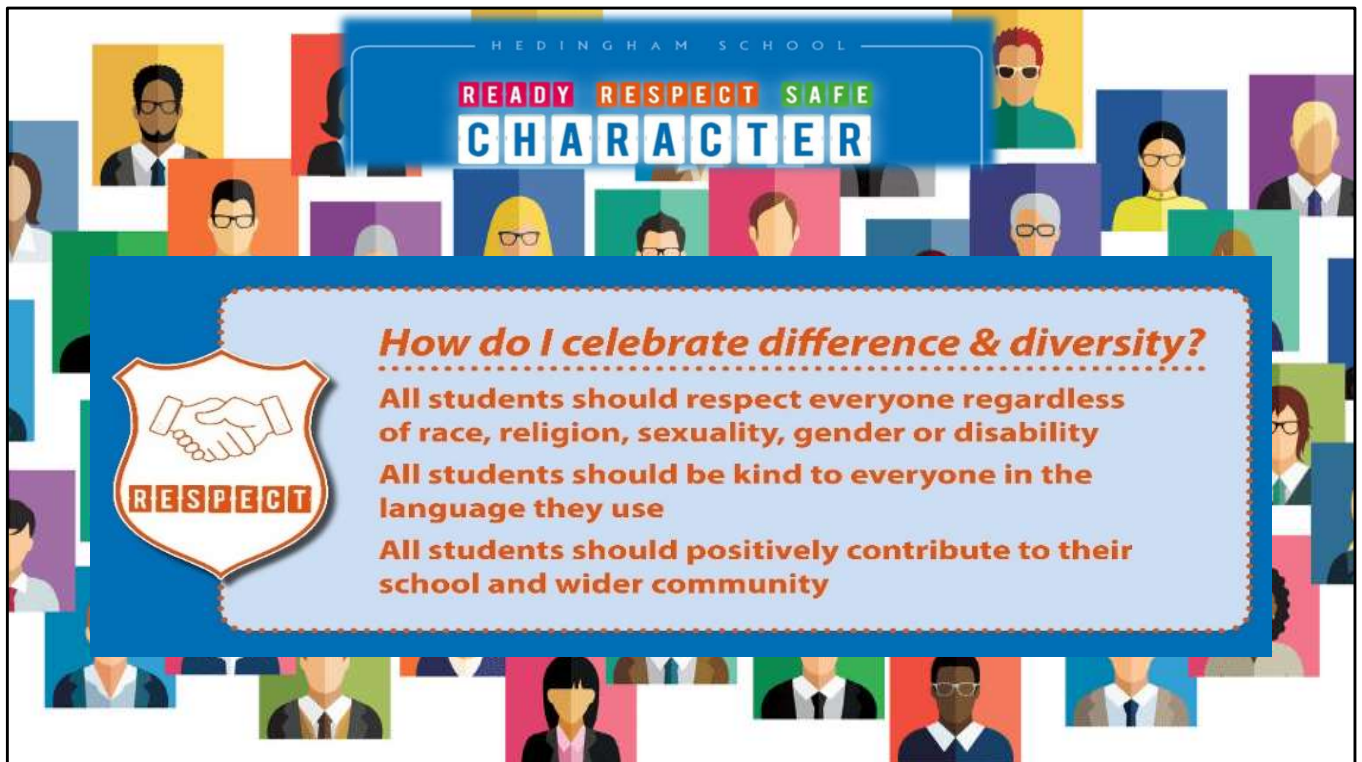
Key Messages
Do the right thing

Do not bring anything into school that is an offensive weapon either to show to anyone or more seriously with intent to use it.
Do not bring any drugs (including THC) into school, either to sell or to use.
Do not ever be violent (hitting someone). It is not deserved, 'banter' or appropriate defence.

These are all serious breaches of the school's Behaviour Policy. In some instances, this could lead to a permanent exclusion

The Headteacher spoke to all year groups outlining important safeguarding messages for this term.

How do I celebrate difference & diversity?

All students should respect everyone regardless of race, religion, sexuality, gender or disability

All students should be kind to everyone in the language they use

All students should positively contribute to their school and wider community

Students were reminded of the school's motto – 'Ready, Respect, Safe' and our character expectations. These are how we would like our students to grow and develop as young people into active citizens within our society. Students were reminded that we do not tolerate but we celebrate difference and diversity. We spoke about how we live in a global society and their generation are the most forward thinking there has ever been.

We spoke to students about how the world has changed for the better and why it has changed. We explained what stereotyping is and how that leads to prejudice and discrimination.

Alan Turing
1912-1954

The life of Alan Turing was explained to students.

- He was one of the most famous and brilliant mathematicians to live. It's estimated that he saved between 14 and 21 million lives by ending World War 2 early.

- Turing's job was to focus on cracking the Enigma code. This was a code used by Nazi Germany to hide their messages, so people couldn't understand them.

- After the war, he designed the first-ever stored-program computer. This meant it was a computer that had the memory to store programs and functions.

"Those who can imagine anything, can create the impossible."
-Alan Turing

If people had not challenged laws and views from the past, we would have the same today.

- In the penalty shoot-out that saw Italy defeat England in the UEFA Euro 2020 final, the skill of the goalkeepers was overshadowed by the perceived failure of the English players who missed their shots.
- Three young players – Marcus Rashford, Jadon Sancho and Bukayo Saka – were subjected to torrents of anti-black racist abuse.
- A tweet in response to the harassment captures this phenomenon: *"When you score, you're English. When you miss, you're an immigrant."*
- In the case of the English players, it denies the reality of their birth, citizenship and cultural upbringing in England – and the history that has made the country, and Europe more widely, a profoundly mixed and ethnically diverse space.

We spoke about how English football can bring out the best and worst of what it means to be English. Three people at the height of their career who were victims of appalling abuse. We reminded students about the power of language and appropriate behaviour on social media sites.
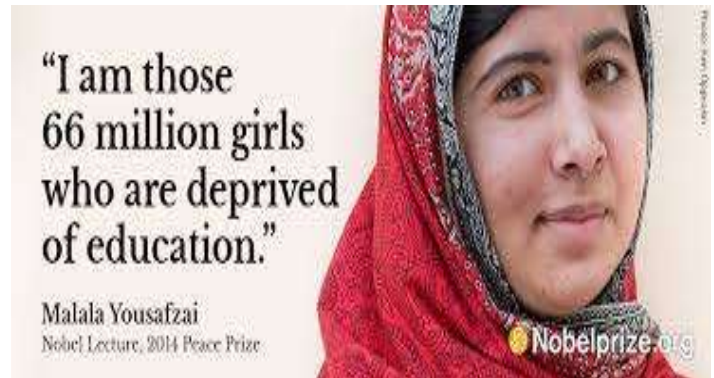
MALALA YOUSEFSI was not allowed to go to school because she was a girl/

Malala Yousafzai is a Pakistani female education activist and the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize laureate at the age of 17. She is the world's youngest Nobel Prize winner.

She was born in the Swat Valley in Pakistan. When the Islamic Taliban movement took control of the valley in 2008, girls' schools were burned down. Malala kept a diary of the events, which was published in 2009 by BBC Urdu. In her diary she spoke out against the Taliban's terrorist regime.

It was not long before the Taliban threatened her life. In 2012, Malala was shot in the head on a school bus by a Taliban gunman. She survived but had to flee to England and live in exile.

"I am those 66 million girls who are deprived of education."

Malala Yousafzai
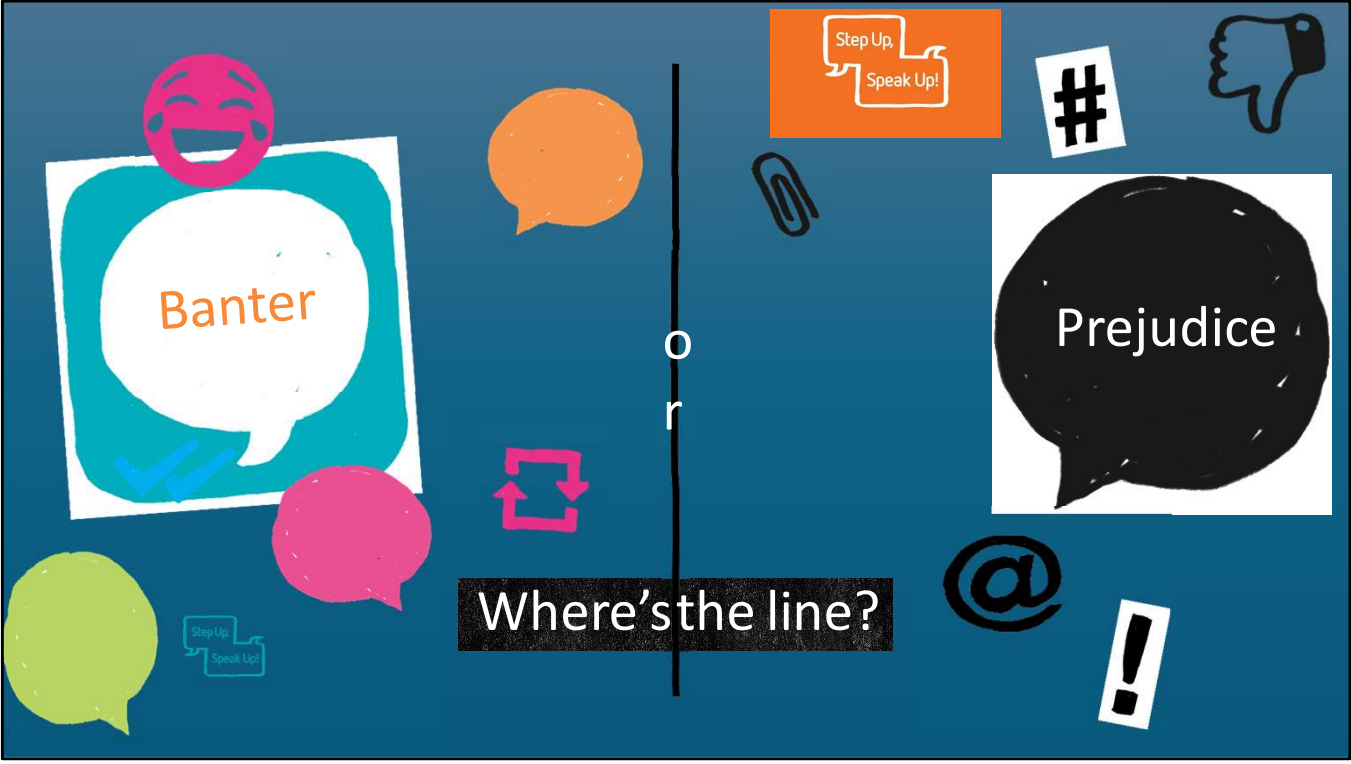Nobel Lecture, 2014 Peace Prize

Nobelprize.org

We spoke about how a girl who lived in the Pakistan stood up for the rights of girls to have an education.

The loudest voices are given a platform. They create an echo chamber and the algorithms help perpetuate this. Things move quickly. We live in a 'fast' society. Sometimes we do not have the time or want to dig deeper, we will believe the 10 second soundbite instead of researching about people and groups to find out exactly what they say. Social media gives you a distorted view of the world, we need the space to add the colour and engage in critical thinking.

There isn't a line. It doesn't matter if someone is your friend, if it was 'banter,' if you were joking, It is not banter. It is not joking. There is no line.

Verbal abuse involves using words to name call, bully, demean, frighten, intimidate, or control another person.

Prejudicial language can be defined as words or acts based on preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience.

Words and phrases that tend to stereotype individuals, groups, races, or nationalities..

Words that relate to, or characterized by sex or sexuality, race, religion or physical appearance.

Derogatory comments are comprised of words that tend or intend to detract, disparage or belittle and can often be considered offensive. Derogatory words have the power to hurt.
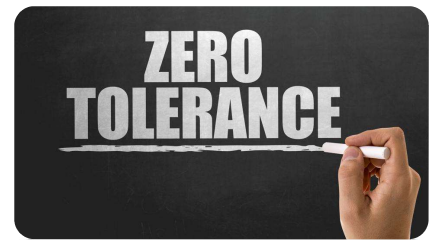

This is not school specific. You will find these rules in schools, universities, workplaces, social media platforms and within the law.

- The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society.

- It **sets out the personal characteristics that are protected by the law and the behaviour that is** unlawful.

A reminder what protected characteristics are. Year 10 & 11 assemblies were related to rights within employment.
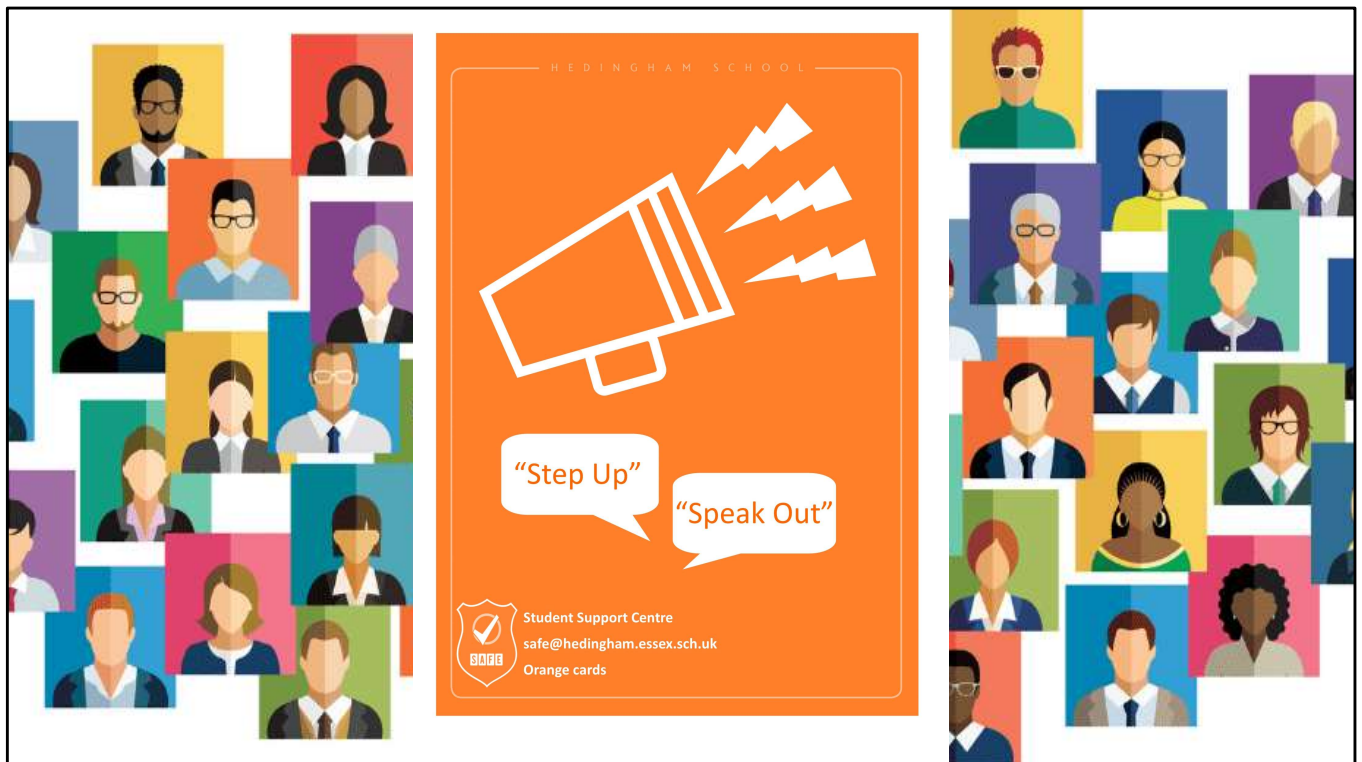
Behaviour Policy

The school defines harmful behaviour as:

Verbally abusive (and may include anti-social language/swearing/racist/homophobic/transphobic/sexist abuse)

Serious breaches of our school mission and aims is defined as:

Racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic or discriminatory behaviour.

In some instances, these could lead to permanent exclusion.

Above anything else, you have a duty to report any prejudice related or anti-social behaviour whether you are the victim or a witness. Part of school is also to educate individuals on the impact of the language they use. We must stand up and speak out within our school community.

How do I celebrate difference & diversity?

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All students should be kind to everyone in the language they use

All students should positively contribute to their school and wider community

ONE CHILD,
ONE TEACHER
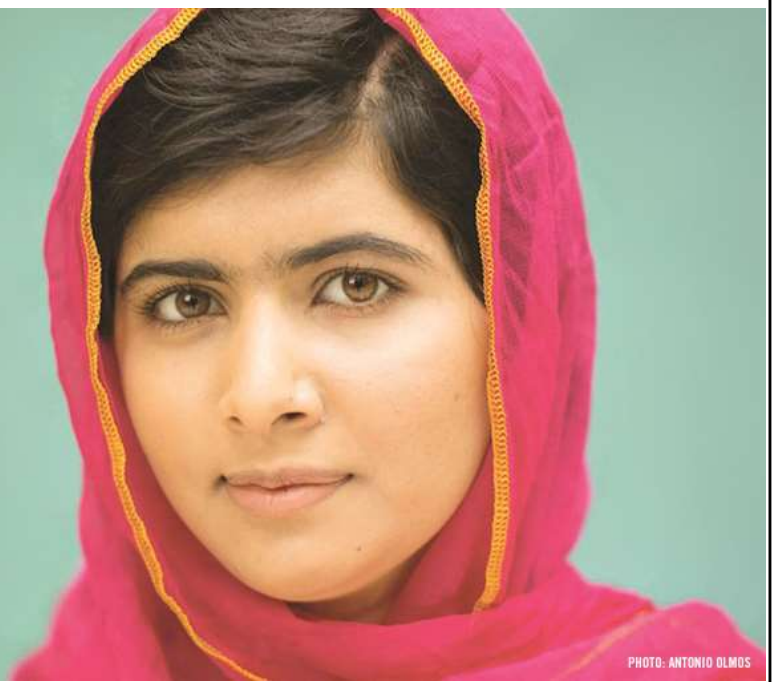ONE BOOK & ONE PEN
CAN CHANGE
THE WORLD.

MALALA YOUSAFZAI

PHOTO: ANTONIO OLMOS