



15th May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

It has come to our attention that a number of students are bringing fidget toys into school that are not appropriate for use in the classroom, or are not being used in the way they are intended. We are also receiving reports that some students are bringing in inappropriate fidget toys, or items that are distracting to themselves and others, and in some cases, students have not been allocated a focus tool at all.

At school, we refer to these as focus tools as we want to shift the mindset from "playing" to "working". Tools should be used to improve focus, whilst toys are for leisure. When used correctly, they are designed to support students by helping to manage sensory needs, reduce anxiety, and improve concentration. This allows students to remain engaged and on task during lessons.

In order to ensure that focus tools are used appropriately and effectively, the following procedures are in place:

- Any student wishing to use a focus tool must have this agreed and approved by the SEND or Pastoral Team.
- Approved use of a focus tool will be recorded on our school systems for all staff to see.
- Students who are not on the approved list will not be permitted to use focus tools in lessons.

Moving forwards, staff will ask students who are using such items inappropriately, or without approval, to put them away and /or confiscate items if necessary.

If a student is seen using a focus tool and it is unclear whether this has been approved, staff will check with the SEND and Pastoral Team.

For students who do have approval, we recommend the use of small, discreet, and non-distracting tools, which support learning without drawing attention or disrupting others. Please see the picture below for the type of focus tool we recommend to our SEND students. These marble mesh fidget sets can be purchased from Amazon.



We appreciate your support in ensuring that students bring only appropriate items to school and understand the purpose of focus tools.

If you have any questions, or feel your child may benefit from a focus tool, please contact the SEND or Pastoral Team.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Beverstock
SENDCo