

The Calder Learning Trust

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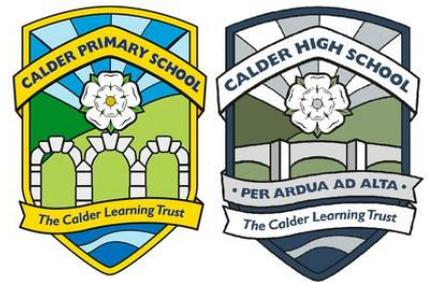
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Head of Calder High School – Mr A Taylor

Head of Calder Primary School – Mrs K Lambert



11 March 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Re: 92% Attendance Challenge Pilot

At Calder High, we believe that every day in the classroom counts. Firstly, we would like to apologise for the slight delay in this announcement. It was important for us to carefully cross-reference parent feedback against the views of our students to ensure we are making a well-informed decision for our school community.

We are excited to announce that we are proceeding with the “**92% Attendance Challenge**” pilot. However, we have taken on board parent feedback suggesting that Wednesday may not be the most practical day for everyone.

To find the best fit, we will be trialling different days for our potential reward dates:

- **First Reward:** Wednesday 15th April
- **Second Reward:** Thursday 4th June
- **Third Reward:** Friday 10th July

By rotating these days, we can monitor which has the most positive impact and use that data to inform a potential full implementation for the next academic year.

We are particularly pleased to hear from so many pupils who feel that non-uniform days will significantly support their sensory management throughout the school day as well as prepare them for life beyond Calder. This initiative has sparked a wider, incredibly productive conversation with our Student Parliament regarding uniform in general. Our students deserve absolute credit here; they have been remarkably progressive in their thinking and articulate in expressing how these changes affect their wellbeing and learning environment. We are looking forward to working with them on this moving forward.

To ensure this remains a truly collective effort, we want to clarify two key points:

- **Total Inclusivity:** If the school-wide 92% target is met, the non-uniform day will be for **all students**. We will not be restricting this to individuals with 92% attendance or above, as we want to remain inclusive and account for authorised absences. This is a collective initiative that allows us to factor in the nuances of individual circumstance.
- **Double Incentives:** To encourage positive behaviour and maximize the impact of these days, we will double the value of all reward points earned on non-uniform days. We want to incentivise "buy-in" and make these days a celebration of our school culture.
- **Choice:** While we encourage students to enjoy the reward, dressing for their sensory comfort and individuality, we ask that all clothing remains appropriate for a school environment and remains health and safety compliant.

Everybody, Everyday



Below is an overview of how this initiative will be implemented throughout the trial period:

1. We will update a "Goal Meter" at Student Services every Monday, share the collective figure on TVs in the diner throughout the week and promote on the student informer.
2. If the target is hit, the reward is confirmed on the last Friday of the half term to students.
3. The announcement will be communicated with parents (regardless of outcome) via letter/social media. Reminders will also be issued on the days prior to the event to eradicate any miscommunication.
4. Students enjoy their "non uniform" day.

We believe this "all-in" approach will foster a stronger sense of belonging and school spirit. Thank you for your continued support and for your valuable feedback during this planning phase.

If you feel your child will need additional support on these days or would like further clarification on how this initiative will work for them, please do contact me at school and we will work together to facilitate this.

Kind regards,



Hannah Jones
Deputy Headteacher

Everybody, Everyday

