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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to ask for your support.

At the end of last half term, we have had two students using racist language in school. When challenging students, it's clear that there is no malintent in most circumstances and students believe this is just banter!

This unacceptable behaviour is outlined in the government's Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2023) guidance. It is part of every school's Safeguarding Policy and that involves protecting students from physical harm but also includes harm to their mental health and protecting students from discriminatory bullying.

The impact of banter can be profound, and deliberate discriminatory language and behaviour on our students and society can be catastrophic and have lifelong effects.

To make it clear to parents/carers and students, any racial language or discriminatory behaviour **will result in a suspension** and will be **reported to the police**.

We have requested that the police come in and talk to students in assemblies, but I would like to request that parents/carers speak to their child(ren) and explain the serious nature of using such derogatory terminology.

We will continue to challenge these behaviours, including stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination, that is wrong, and we will continue to review our curriculum to ensure that students are aware of what is right and wrong.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Pond
Headteacher

