

Headteacher: Malcolm Kelly

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

## Dear Parent/Carer,

We are refurbishing two of our student toilet areas in order to provide enhanced facilities for our students. Some of our current toilet areas are quite old and as such do not best meet the needs of our students. The existing facilities are almost all specific to a single gender. We will, once the refurbishment is completed, be able to better cater for all of our students as these new facilities have been designed to be gender neutral.

In addition to these two new facilities, students will continue to have access to other toilets in school, some of which have also been refurbished in the last five years. These facilities will continue to be gender specific (boys' toilets and girls' toilets). We will also continue to have toilet facilities that are more accessible, for our students who need and who benefit from these.

The two newly refurbished toilet facilities will be able to be accessed by all students, irrespective of gender identification and easier to monitor. The design that has been chosen for these areas is working well in other secondary schools, and provides the essential privacy for students with floor to ceiling walls and doors on each cubicle. The new facilities will have a lowered ceiling with improved ventilation; they will have working hand dryers as well as paper towels, and each cubicle has been upgraded to a high standard with thicker than average walls and doors. The need for sanitary bins and other essential items have been carefully incorporated. The toilet facilities will be closely monitored in order to ensure that they provide safe spaces that are properly used by all students.

We will be explaining about the new toilets areas, with clear expectations about their use, in forthcoming assemblies with all students. The refurbishments are part of an on-going programme of improving site facilities for students and staff.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Kelly Headteacher Helen Dafforne Head of Pastoral Care

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