



CATALYST

Dilkes Academy

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September 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are delighted to let you know that we will be continuing our Dilkes Merit Reward System across all classrooms this academic year. This system is designed to celebrate and encourage positive learning behaviours, effort, and kindness in every lesson.

Each child will have the opportunity to earn a merit award in every lesson. To track their progress, each pupil will be given a sticker book, which will be kept by the class teacher. When a merit is awarded, the teacher or pupil will place a coloured dot sticker in the book and date it. It allows every child to see which Merit Criteria they are consistently meeting.

As children progress through their sticker books, they will receive certificates and recognition:

- **1st page (20 stickers)** – Bronze Certificate
- **2nd page (20 stickers)** – Silver Certificate
- **3rd page (20 stickers)** – Gold Certificate

Each certificate will be presented during our weekly Key Stage assemblies and celebrated in the fortnightly newsletter. Children who achieve all three levels will be invited to a special celebration of tea, cakes, and games with Mr Latham and Miss Gospodinova/Miss Rodgers.

Merit Criteria

These criteria are clearly displayed in all classrooms so children understand how they can earn a Dilkes Merit.

EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage)

Attainment:

- achieving the success criteria;
- showing good progression in learning.

Managing Yourself:

- following class rules;
- persevering with activities;
- expressing needs and feelings appropriately.

The Kindness Factor:

- Taking turns and sharing fairly
- Being sensitive to others' needs and feelings

Effort and Attitude:

- maintaining attention and concentration;
- positive approach to activities;
- confidence in working with others.

Enhancing Learning:

- asking and answering questions;
- using taught knowledge independently;
- selecting and using resources independently.



KS1 and KS2

Attainment:

- achieving learning targets;
- showing good progression.

Managing Yourself:

- managing distractions;
- persevering with challenges;
- managing emotions during learning and play.

The Kindness Factor:

- including and caring for others;
- being aware and considerate of others' feelings.

Effort and Attitude:

- 100% focused learning;
- positive attitude towards learning;
- collaborating with others.

Enhancing Learning:

- asking and answering questions;
- recalling and extending learning;
- being resourceful beyond the classroom.

We believe this is an exciting and inclusive reward system that supports all children in achieving their best. Your support in encouraging and celebrating your child's progress is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Gospodinova
Deputy Headteacher

