



30.04.2026

Dear Families,

At Yate Academy, we are committed to nurturing not only academic success but also the character, confidence, and sense of belonging of every young person in our community. As part of this commitment, we are proud to introduce and embed our shared approach known as **STEPS**.

**STEPS** is at the heart of our culture and represents the simple, everyday actions that demonstrate respect, kindness, and confidence in our students. Through STEPS, we promote “The Yate Academy Way” – a consistent and positive approach to communication and gratitude across the academy that helps to build warm, respectful relationships between students and staff.

**STEPS stands for:**

- **Sir/Miss**
- **Thank you**
- **Excuse me**
- **Please**
- **Smile**

These small but powerful habits help to create a culture of mutual respect and warmth, while also supporting students in developing the confidence to engage in polite, everyday conversations and greetings. Over time, these interactions strengthen relationships across our school community and help every student feel seen, valued, and supported.

To ensure STEPS becomes a meaningful and visible part of school life, we have embedded it in several ways:

- **Character Cards:** Students can receive merits for demonstrating STEPS in action.
- **Morning Greetings:** Staff and students practise STEPS together each day, creating a positive and welcoming start to the day.
- **Student Shout Outs:** We celebrate students during morning briefings through daily staff nominations, where staff recognise and nominate students who have demonstrated their STEPS.
- **School Signage:** Visual reminders are displayed around the academy as a reminder of expectations.

We encourage students to use STEPS both in school and in the wider community. By practising these behaviours every day, students build positive habits they can carry into life beyond Yate Academy—at home, in public, and in future workplaces. These skills help them grow in confidence, show respect, and build strong relationships, preparing them well for opportunities such as interviews and beyond.

We greatly value your continued support in reinforcing these values at home and helping us to build a warm, respectful, and connected community for all our young people.

Yours sincerely,



**Lauren Beckett**  
Deputy Principal