



Thomas Fairchild Community School
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Executive Headteacher: Ms Nicole Reid
Headteacher: Mr Matthew Trahair

Thursday 12th February 2026

Dear Thomas Fairchild Families,

Re: Important Reminder - Toys and Personal Fidget Items in School

I am writing to you today to provide a reminder regarding our school policy on personal toys and fidget items.

While we understand that children often enjoy bringing items from home to share with friends, we have recently seen a significant increase in the number of personal toys and fidgets being brought into the classroom. Unfortunately, this has led to several ongoing challenges that impact the learning environment and the well-being of our pupils.

Why we ask for these items to stay at home:

- **Classroom Distractions:** Even the smallest toys can become a major distraction during lessons, taking focus away from learning for both the owner and their peers.
- **Loss and Damage:** We know how much these items mean to your children. When a precious toy or fidget is lost, traded, or accidentally damaged, it causes genuine distress.
- **Emotional Dysregulation:** Dealing with the aftermath of a broken or missing item often leads to children becoming very upset and dysregulated, which can take a significant amount of time and support to resolve during the school day.

We recognise that some children require fidget tools as part of an agreed regulation strategy to help them focus. To ensure consistency and fairness, the school maintains its own supply of sensory tools. These are used within specific, agreed parameters under the guidance of our teaching staff. By using school-provided equipment, we can ensure the tools remain a support for learning rather than a distraction.

Moving forward, we kindly ask for your support in ensuring these items remain at home. Please note the following:

- **Confiscation:** If children continue to bring personal toys or fidgets into school, they will be collected by staff.
- **Collection:** These items will be kept safely in the school office, where they must be collected by an adult at the end of the day.

Our goal is to maintain a calm, focused, and happy environment for all our children. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us achieve this.

Kind regards,

Matt Trahair
Headteacher