



## **Pensby High School**

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Headteacher: Mr K Flanagan

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Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you to again ask for your help. As I am sure you are aware there is a locally on-going school 'craze' around 'fidget spinner' and 'fidget cubes'. These were designed to support children with high level needs primarily based around areas such as ADHD or sensory difficulties perhaps linked to Autistic Spectrum Disorders, essentially a very small number of children.

In a school population of over 800 students we have given five tangle bands to students. These do not spin, but do allow students who may otherwise struggle to sit still to shift their interest to a band in their pocket or on their wrist. We will always look to direct and divert students to aid their own learning and the learning of others; however, this is not a commonplace need. As a result of this latest craze we are seeing dozens and dozens of fidget spinners in school and this is now acting to the detriment of learning for individual students and groups of students around them.

Can I please ask that at home you talk and reflect on the purpose of the spinner – is your child really in a position that learning is best served by fidgeting? If not please do not buy a spinner for school. If we see the need to secure learning for a student with something to fidget with, we will provide a tangle band

As a staff we will ask students not to use fidget spinners in lessons and if they create an issue at break or lunch we will need to take them from individuals students and then return them at the end of the day.

I am keen that we support every child to be successful, but I am mindful that we are a community and needs must be balanced across all members of that community so please no fidget spinners or cubes in lessons unless they are recommended after a diagnosis or input from a medical professional. The vast, vast majority of students will see no benefit and simply be distracted from their learning.

Your support is as ever very gratefully appreciated.

Yours sincerely

**Mr K Flanagan**  
**Headteacher**