

Our guide to

Awards and family engagement

Awards are powerful. Here's how they can support learning, motivation and relationships with families.

01

Supporting learning

Focus on effort

- Recognise persistence, improvement, and strategies used.
- Link awards to learning goals to reinforce that learning is valued.

Use specific feedback

- Explain clearly why awards were earned to reinforce positive learning behaviours.



02

Supporting motivation

Encourage intrinsic motivation

- Balance awards with meaningful feedback.
- Awards and badges combined with verbal feedback often have more lasting impact.

Inclusive recognition

- Ensure every pupil has a path to recognition e.g. effort, kindness, teamwork, creativity.



03

Strengthen relationships with families

Share achievements beyond the classroom

- Share news of awards using Observations, with a photo.

Create family-inclusive awards

- Recognise small wins at home with awards and badges to reinforce the home-school connection.

Use celebrations as community builders

- Host award ceremonies where families are invited to participate.
- Help families see and value their child's progress.