Gerrans School: Sensory Aid Guidance

Policy Area:	Behaviour & Inclusion	**Effective Date:**	September 2026
Applies To:	**All Pupils, Parents & Staff**	**Review Cycle:**	**Annual**

1. Purpose

This documents outlines the school's position on personal fidget toys, squishies and similar items brought from home. It aims to maintain a safe learning environment and ensure that all pupils benefit from high-quality, distraction-free teaching and learning.

2. General Restriction

Pupils are not permitted to bring personal fidget toys, squishies or similar sensory items into school from home. These items present potential health and safety risks and can detract from classroom engagement.

> *"Fidget spinners compete for the very attention they're supposed to free up. Classroom studies show they distract rather than focus students."*
>
> **— Peps Mccrea, Teacher Educator and Director of Education at Steplab**

3. Individual Sensory Needs and Provision

The school recognises that specific pupils may require targeted sensory support to access the curriculum effectively.

- **Assessment:** Parents or carers who believe their child requires sensory support must raise this with the child's class teacher so that individual needs and suitability can be assessed.
- **School Provision:** Where a specific need is identified, the school will provide approved, safe and bespoke sensory tools.
- **Monitoring:** Staff will work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that any provided sensory aids support the pupil's educational and emotional needs without disrupting the wider learning environment.

4. Compliance

Personal fidget toys or squishies brought onto school premises without prior agreement will be returned to parents or carers in line with standard school procedures.