



ASPINLINE'S  
*Free Toolkit*  
FOR SCHOOLS





Aspinline is a '5 star customer service' rated, promotional and event products supplier based in Bristol, UK.

We work with worldwide brands like Levi's and Nike, but one of our main focuses is our work in the education sector. We work with schools, colleges & universities throughout the UK supplying products that are made for the purpose of improving the educational experience of pupils and teachers for the better.

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## JAMES ASPINWALL

HEAD OF CUSTOMER DEVELOPMENT

*James*



*Over the years I have been speaking with teachers and heads to help them develop their innovative visions and ideas into physical products that solve real problems and make real differences in an educational setting.*

*I have compiled this toolkit that lists some of the best ways to solve problems that your school may be dealing with right now, and ways you can transform the attitudes and achievements of your pupils. The solutions are simple and straight forward I am very confident they will work for you.*



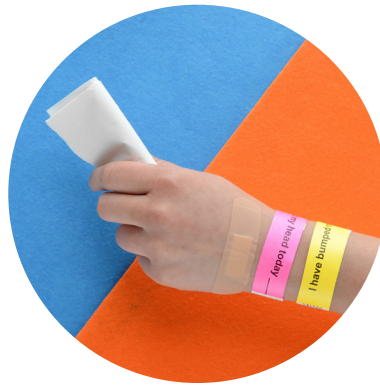


**1**  
**SCHOOL DINNER TIME:  
WRISTBAND SYSTEM**



**2**  
**CHEAPER UNIFORM  
ALTERNATIVES**

**3**  
**INCIDENT  
WRISTBANDS**



**4**  
**ADMISSION  
CONTROL**

**5**  
**KEEPING CHILDREN  
SAFE OFF-SITE**





**STREAMLINE YOUR SCHOOL DINNER TIME, REDUCE WASTE AND CREATE POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT FROM THE PUPILS.**

The cost to implement this system is extremely low, especially when weighed up against the benefits it brings.

WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) conducted a research project and have devised this now well tested and proven system.



*This simple system allows pupils to choose their preferred meal option each morning, at which point they are given a coloured silicone wristband corresponding to their meal choice. The numbers of pupils selecting each meal option are communicated to the kitchen, allowing staff to cook the correct number of portions of each. On entering the dining hall those serving the cooked meals can see at a glance which option each pupil has ordered from their coloured wristband.*





- Reducing food waste.
- Pupils are actively involved in planning their meal choice and take ownership of this process.
- Parents and carers, especially those of younger pupils, are happy to be involved in choosing their pupil's meal at home.

- Pupils enjoy wearing wristbands and have a positive attitude towards school meals.
- Queueing times are reduced, since pupils have made their meal choice before arriving at the serving counter.
- Administrative errors relating to the payment for school meals are reduced, saving the school money.

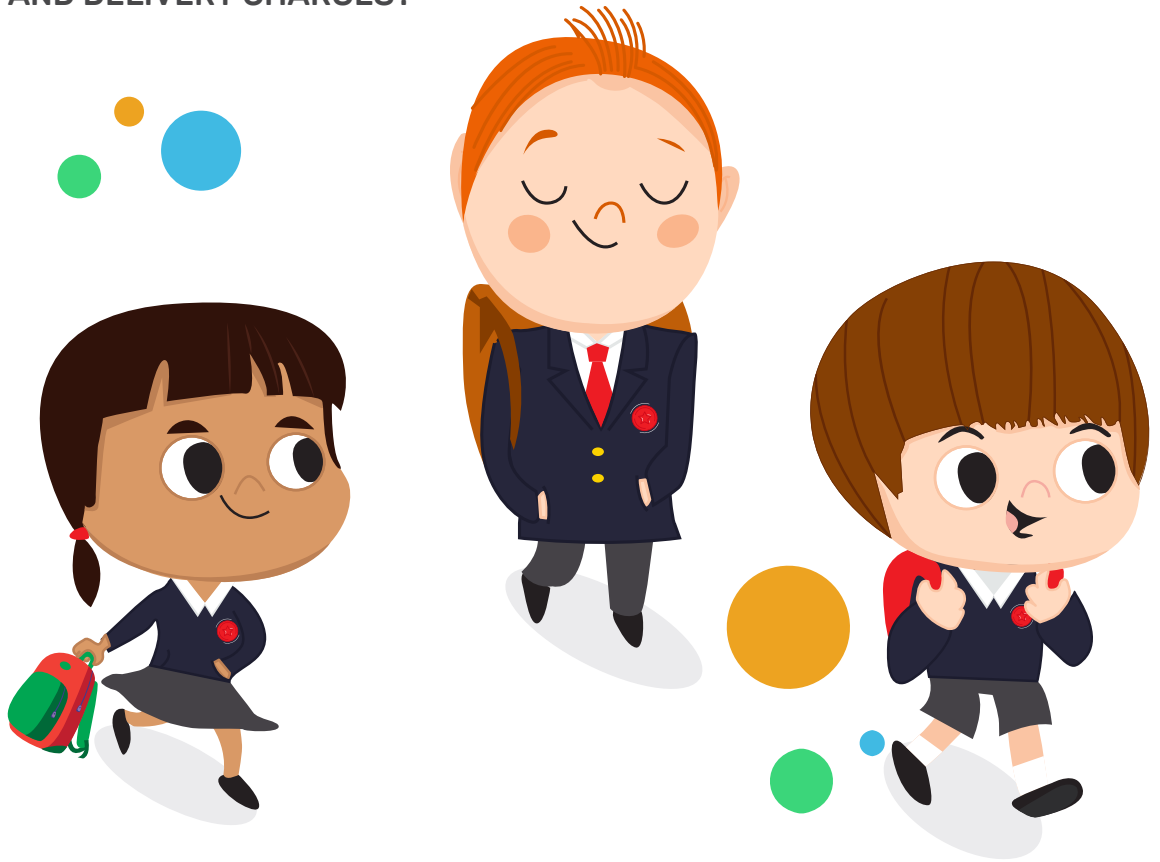


**SEE THE FULL ACTION PLAN HERE:**

# 2

## CHEAPER UNIFORM ALTERNATIVES

ARE PARENTS AND CARERS VOCAL ABOUT THE **HIGH COSTS OF SCHOOL UNIFORMS**, THE INCONVENIENCE OF LIMITED TIME-FRAMES TO ORDER AND DELIVERY CHARGES?



Supermarkets sell very affordable school uniforms, they are available all year round, parents and carers can pick up the uniforms with their weekly shop and the supermarkets often offer multi-buy deals.

**However**, you may have had **reservations**, as you believe it is important to **display the school's logo or emblem on the uniforms**.

The solution, is to offer embroidered or woven patches to parents and carers that they can sew-on to the uniforms at designated positions.







## The Benefits

- Take away the management stresses of selling direct to parents and carers (unsold stock, returns etc.)

- Selling patches is simple and straight forward, the stock takes up no space at all.

- Families save money.

- Patches in any shape, size and colour.

- Machine washable and fine for the tumble dryer.

- Quickly replace lost, damaged and outgrown clothes.

- Pupils can take enjoyment and pleasure for helping in the application of the patches.

- Patches can be applied to bags, book-bags, pencil cases, coats, PE-kits and more.



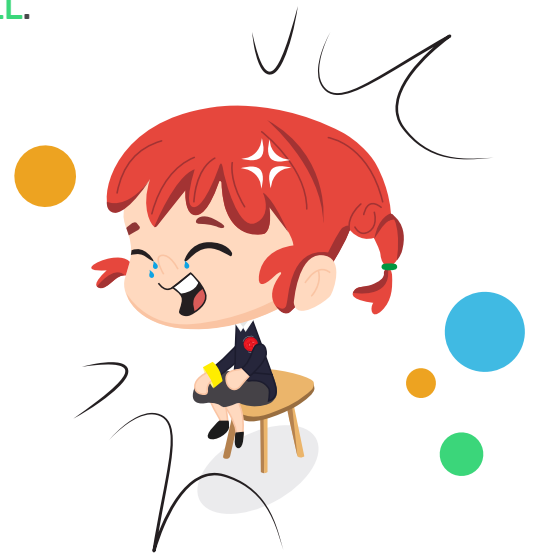
# 3

## INCIDENT WRISTBANDS

SCHOOLS HAVE A **RESPONSIBILITY** TO LET PARENTS AND CARERS KNOW IF A PUPIL HAS HAD AN INCIDENT AT SCHOOL, SUCH AS: **A BUMP ON THE HEAD, AN ALLERGIC REACTION, OR A FALL.**

If a staff member is not able to speak to the parent or carer directly, a letter is sent home with the pupil.

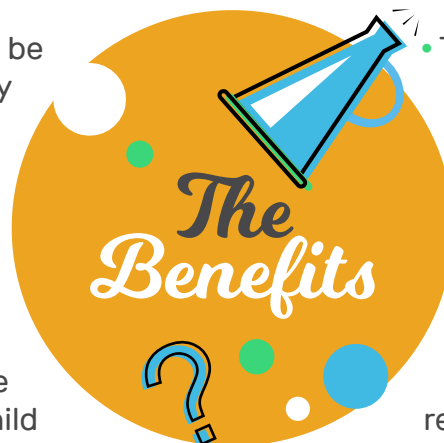
In most cases the parent or carer will hear about the incident from the child. If the letter has been forgotten, lost or damaged, the parent or carer can become upset or angry that they have not been notified.



Tyvek Wristbands with printed messages describing the incident are a really successful solution.



- Parents & carers identify the wristband straight away and ask the pupil.
- They can be applied securely and are comfortable for pupils to wear throughout the day.
- The wristbands can be customised with any message and your school logo.
- They are self adhesive, one size fits all and are chlorine and water resistant.
- The wristbands are available in very bright colours.
- They are sequentially numbered so you can use the number on the band as a reference.
- Other school staff are instantly notified if a child has had an incident.



# 4

## ADMISSION CONTROL

**Seasonal balls are a highlight of the school year.** So much planning and work is carried out by pupils and teachers.

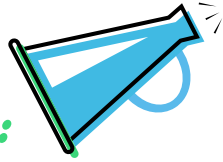
However if admission control is not managed correctly, **the whole event can fall apart before it has begun.**

**Admission control is very easily overlooked** with focus taken by food, decoration, music & entertainment.

Tyvek Wristbands are a simple solution to manage admission.



### The Benefits:



- Never go over the safe capacities for venues.
- Only pupils or ticket holders attend and no gate-crashers.
- The wristbands can be used for ticket allocation before the event.
- Different colour wristbands can be used to identify different age groups or house groups on the day of the event.
- The wristbands are available in very bright colours.
- The wristbands are non-transferable, chlorine & water resistant, self adhesive and one size fits all.



# 5

## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE OFF-SITE



Older pupils who are heading off on a school trip are often **given more independence to explore and experience a different city or environment.**

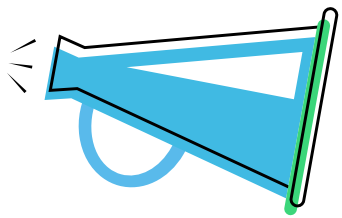
A great way to give the pupils a safety net, in-case they get themselves into a sticky situation, is a silicone wristband with emergency contact information.

Silicone wristbands can include quite a lot of information about the school trip, including:

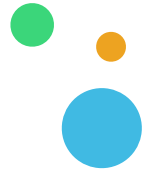
- Contact numbers
- Addresses
- School name
- Age range
- Country of residence

Silicone wristbands are a great solution for all types of school trips for pupils of all ages. They can help identify a pupil who may have wandered away from the group at a museum or an attraction with simple information about the school and contact information.





## The Benefits:



- Pupils can wear the wristbands in all situations: bath, shower, in bed, swimming, playing sports, etc.
- The wristbands are light & comfortable to wear.



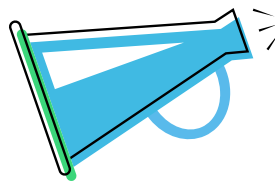
- The wristbands can be supplied in very bright colours and stand-out if misplaced.
- The wristbands are very cost effective and easily replaced.
- The wristbands can be used as a memento for the trip.
- Different colour wristbands can be used to identify different groups within the trip.
- Glow in the dark is available if the pupils are out and about at night.



Tyvek Wristbands are an even cheaper way to ensure school trips remain enjoyable with the **reassurance** that every pupil can be identified, by carrying readily available emergency contact information.



## The Benefits:



- The wristbands are available in very bright colours.
- The wristbands can be customised with any message and your school logo.
- You can add your own information very easily with a biro or permanent marker.

- The wristbands can be applied securely and are comfortable for pupils to wear throughout the day.
- The wristbands are non-transferable, chlorine & water resistant, self adhesive and one size fits all.



**4 WAYS**  
TO DRAMATICALLY  
**TRANSFORM**  
PUPIL ATTITUDES  
**AND ATTAINMENT**

**1**  
**MULTIPLICATION  
WRISTBANDS**



**2**  
**MERIT  
PATCHES**

**3**  
**COLOURS FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN SPORTS AND EDUCATION**



**4**  
**THE HOUSE  
SYSTEM**



# MULTIPLICATION WRISTBANDS

MULTIPLICATION WRISTBANDS ARE A GREAT WAY FOR PUPILS TO **LEARN** THEIR TIMES-TABLES ANYTIME AND ANYWHERE.



**Pupils love to wear wristbands**, especially when they glow in the dark!

These wristbands come as a set of 12. Each wristband has the full times-table printed on it and can be customised with your school logo or custom messages (or they are available without any branding).

The idea is that after each times-table has been completed, pupils are rewarded with the next one, all the way up to 12, which is gold for the final achievement.







- Cheap and fun.
- Collecting all the wristbands and being rewarded with something to wear is a massive incentive for pupils.
- Learning can spark anytime and anywhere, even in the bath or shower!
- x6, x7, x8, x9 and x10 glow in the dark so there is sense of achievement on the way to completing the set.
- x12 is gold, to mark completion of the set.
- A great fundraiser item for schools/PTAs.

MANY SCHOOLS USE A SIMILAR INITIATIVE: MULTIPLICATION REWARD WRISTBANDS.

Once a pupil has reached a certain level they are awarded with a silicone wristband which covers a range of levels, rather than 1 at a time, for example:

- x2, x10, x5 = Red wristband
- x3, x4, x8 = Blue wristband
- UP TO x12 = Gold wristband



These wristbands can be customised with your logo or emblem, can be in any colour, be glow in the dark, or purchased from stock with no school customisation.

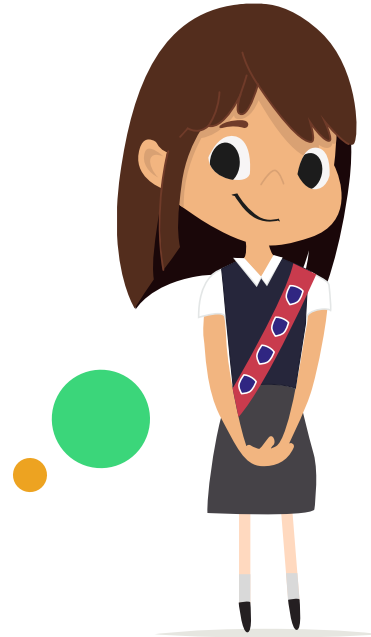
# 2

## MERIT PATCHES

Awarding merit patches is a proven way to encourage pupils to **reach new heights in their education and personal development.**

Merit patches encourage pupils to explore areas that interest them and to teach values and skills.

The merit patch program is completely open to variation. You can award pupils in anyway you like and reward them with completely unique patch designs.



### HERE IS A CASE STUDY OF HOW A SCHOOL USED THE MERIT PATCH SYSTEM:

Each pupil is given an affordable sash in their house colours.

Patches are presented during assembly with a certificate (printed at school) with the patch attached using a paperclip.

The school values are: **Aspiration, Inspiration, Fortitude & Unity.**

Merit patches are awarded for demonstrating any of the values in school or home life, for example:

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*A pupil who has a passion for animals and nature starts and maintains a nature themed YouTube channel, working with their family and friends, entertaining people, learning about nature and gaining new skills.*

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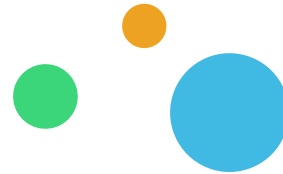
THIS COULD BE AWARDED WITH THE  
**ASPIRATION** OR **INSPIRATION** MERIT PATCH

ANOTHER EXAMPLE WOULD BE:

*A pupil has broken their ankle, they have a cast and are on crutches, but the injury doesn't hold them back from participating in normal school lessons and activities, in fact nothing holds them back and their attitude is completely positive and unaffected.*



THIS PUPIL COULD BE AWARDED WITH THE **FORTITUDE** MERIT PATCH.



MERITS PATCHES ARE ALSO AWARDED IN THREE STAGES FOR:

- Good behaviour.
- Reading.
- Curriculum.
- Hitting targets.
- Communication.



# 3

## COLOURS FOR EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS AND EDUCATION

AWARDING COLOURS STARTED AS A TRADITION IN UNIVERSITIES AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS FOR PUPILS THAT EXCELLED IN SPORTS.

This tradition is now common in schools and academies for a very good reason, **the promise of an award pushes pupils to do better and have that effort and hard work recognised.**

The opportunity for success to be acknowledged and rewarded reflects and **cultivates positivity throughout the school.**

Colours are no-longer just for sports though, **non-sporting pupils are also recognised. Colours can be awarded for any category you like, from drama, to help in the community.**



Pin badges are the most common way of representing these achievements. Improvements in production techniques and affordability means you can now create awards in many different and contemporary styles, as well as traditionally.





## The Benefits

- Pupils push themselves and work harder.
- The reward system cultivates positivity throughout the school.
- Achievement can be recognised and celebrated at every stage and every level.

- Colours can be created for subjects and levels of achievement that have never been recognised before, you decide what you want to award.

- Award ceremonies and assemblies can be run to recognise the achievements which create excitement and engagement.

- By rewarding the pupils with the best learning habits and whose efforts have improved the most, results in these top pupils becoming models for other pupils to learn from.

Schools can also implement the Colour award system using embroidered or woven patches instead of pin badges.



## The Benefits:

- Patches as Colours can be applied to PE kits, especially sports.
- Patches as Colours are more permanent and are less likely to be lost.
- Patches as Colours are cheaper.
- Patches as Colours are bigger and more colourful and stand-out more than pin badges.



# 4

## THE HOUSE SYSTEM

House systems have been a traditional feature of schools in the UK for a very long time, but there is no question that the **Harry Potter books and films have re-sparked the concept and made it even more desirable and appealing to pupils.**

Luckily this is a great result for the whole school as **house systems improve behaviour and attitudes.**



The house system commonly involves awarding points as a positive way of recording pupils contributions and deducting points as a deterrent for bad behavior.

Brothers and sisters are put in the same houses as their siblings and sports days become mini Olympic games with houses competing against each other for the top prize of winning house!



Embroidered patches (as used in Hogwarts) & pin badges are a great way for pupils to display which houses they belong to and can be used in all kinds of places, from PE kits, to backpacks, to pencil cases and more.



**CAPTURE THE IMAGINATION OF PUPILS, CREATE INSPIRING HOUSE NAMES AND CRESTS BASED ON YOUR SCHOOL HISTORY OR SURROUNDINGS AND IMPROVE THEIR CONTRIBUTION AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS SCHOOL.**



**10 house points awarded to ... YOU!**





## *What Next?*

If you have any questions about how you can implement any of the solutions and ideas from this toolkit in your own school, please get in touch and I can personally help.

Call me on 0117 956 6657 or email me directly at [james@aspinline.co.uk](mailto:james@aspinline.co.uk)

I look forward to hearing from you and helping make school life better for everyone.

## *Good luck!*

**James Aspinwall**

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