



DO AS YOU ARE TOLD

Parents—they think they are so clever
They think they know it all

DO AS YOU ARE TOLD!

DO AS YOU ARE TOLD!
DO EXACTLY AS YOU ARE TOLD!
DO WHAT I TELL YOU!

Go and put your shoes and socks on

So I do
Exactly as I am told
First my shoes – then my socks
Over the tops of my shoes
So they go all wobbly at the front
Mum comes in and goes ballistic



WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING MUCKING ABOUT LIKE THAT?

Doing exactly as I was told
Putting my shoes... and then my socks on



'GO AND DO YOUR HOMEWORK,' she said

Where?

On the kitchen table



So I did. Exactly as I was told
Thirty-seven sums and a story
about what I did on my holidays
On the kitchen table
No books or paper—
just on the kitchen table



I'd just finished when Dad said

DO ME A FAVOUR – TURN THE TELLY OVER

So I did
Exactly as I was told
Heaved and panted,
grunted and groaned,
nearly pulled a muscle
Until the screen was face down
on the carpet

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING?
I CAN'T SEE THE FOOTBALL NOW!



I'm doing exactly as I was told
Turning the telly over!



Then I got shouted at
and sent to bed
It's not fair—parents tell you off
Even when you do
exactly as you are told



And they say daft things as well

Put the kettle on



Doesn't fit me – ooh it's hot, burned my head

Put the cat out

Why? Is it on fire?



Draw the curtains

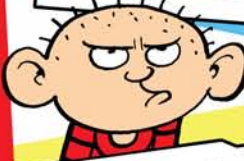


OK – they're blue
with yellow flowers on

Come on –
We've got to catch the bus



It will be too heavy –
it will break my arms



Look at the time –
it's getting late –
run your bath



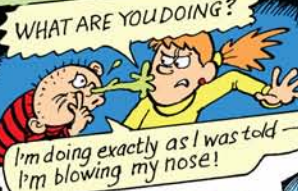
Less of your lip!



There –
that's less of my lip



If you have a runny nose, Mum says
Blow your nose
So I do – right in her face



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'm doing exactly as I was told –
I'm blowing my nose!



So Mum says –
I've had it up to here
with you

Was it up to here before?

Do you want to go to bed
without any tea?



Why, is it something nice
like chips or pizza?

So they say

Don't be cheeky –
watch your tongue



You drive me
up the wall



Oh, we're up there are we –
me and you in
Spiderman's car?!



It's not fair –
adults still tell
us off
Even when we do
EXACTLY AS WE
ARE TOLD!!!



Paul Cookson