

Tuesday 1st September 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Responding to poor student behaviour

I am writing to inform you of our plans to further strengthen student behaviour in the school and specifically, to outline some important changes to the way in which we will respond to rare incidents of poor student behaviour.

We are very proud of the exemplary behaviour that the very large majority of our students demonstrate every day. However, there are times when students don't quite get it right and the way that this is responded to and sanctioned is critical to ensuring that the inappropriate behaviour is stopped as soon as possible and furthermore, not repeated. The following changes are being implemented to support students and staff alike in ensuring that students' learning is not impacted by poor behaviour. These changes have been integrated into our amended 'behaviour and consequences ladder', which can be found on the school website and also on ParentFrog; however, the main changes are outlined below.

From 1st September 2015, in the rare instance that a student behaves in such a way that their inappropriate behaviour necessitates their removal from a lesson, the student will receive a 45 minute whole-school detention. This will take place between 3:15pm and 4:00pm, usually on the same day and will be communicated directly with students and to parents/carers by text message. These whole-school detentions are in response to well documented research, which shows that sanctions are more effective if they are issued as soon as possible following the incident. The new whole-school detentions will replace break, lunch and departmental after-school detentions.

If a student fails to attend the above detention or does not behave appropriately during it, they will then be placed in two consecutive Senior Leadership Team (SLT) detention for 75 minutes on the next two Fridays following the missed detention. If the student fails to attend these detentions or does not behave appropriately during it, the next stage of escalation would, if necessary, be a fixed-term exclusion. Our aim is that this clearly outlined ladder of consequences, will be a sufficient deterrent to encourage students to attend the whole school detention when it is first set, rather than gradually escalating their detentions over a long period of time. To ensure that this process runs smoothly please can you ensure that the school has a current mobile phone contact number for yourselves and that this number is updated during the year if changes are made.

It is of course very likely that your child will not be affected at all by the above changes. However, since all students are being made aware of these changes across the next day or two in assemblies, I felt it important to mirror this communication to all parents/carers.

Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jules Godfrey
Deputy Headteacher