

MAL/HWO

20th December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the festive period, I just wanted to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2020 for you and your families.

This term has been a very successful one and I want to thank you for the support you have given the Academy. It has been really pleasing to see improved parental attendance and support at our Parents' Evenings and our Year 11 Study Evenings. It was great to see the number of parents/carers with our Year 11 students attending the carousels on the evening and focusing their efforts so early in the year. A continued drive will lead to excellent outcomes in the summer.

This busy term is culminating with the annual pantomime being held in the Academy over two nights and a matinee showing as a reward for excellent attitudes to learning. There have also been reward assemblies for excellent attendance and effort with a film reward of Elf and popcorn. Miss Lacey has also re-launched the House system in the last week and we will be organising and running House activities each week after Christmas to promote team work, resilience and togetherness. Please watch out for ways you can earn your child House points.

This half term is always a difficult one with dark nights and mornings and colder weather and I know a lot of families have been hit with both the norovirus and influenza and I hope the new year brings healthier times and I look forward to improved attendance to the Academy. You all received a communication about attendance recently and I hope you continue to support this; attendance of at least 96% is required to ensure that your child gets the outcomes they are capable of.

After the holidays the Academy will be continuing to tighten up on our uniform policy and also be making a few changes to our detention system. Can I thank the vast majority of parents/carers who consistently send their child to the Academy in full uniform. We have very few children now arriving to the Academy dressing incorrectly and I really appreciate your support. Below are the tightened up procedures for you to read and discuss with your child.

Uniform

- No hoodies/non-school uniform jumpers/zip up jackets or other garments will be allowed to be worn in the Academy and underneath blazers. If a student comes to the Academy in one of these they will be asked on the gate to remove it and it will be confiscated by the member of staff until the end of the day. A warm coat can be worn over their blazer to ensure they are warm and dry; this can be removed once inside the building.
- No fizzy drinks, energy drinks or juice will be allowed on the Academy site. Students can buy water from the canteen or fill up their own bottle using the water dispensers. Any other drink will be confiscated and thrown away.
- Jewellery – Can I remind parents/carers that students should not have any earrings in when they come to the Academy. They will be asked to remove them.

Success for today, prepared for tomorrow.

We are also altering our detention system and want to alert you to this to again prepare your child and so that you are fully informed for an organised start in January. These changes are below.

Detention System

We will be running daily 30-minute detentions after school. Students will be placed in a detention on the same day, for the following: (and any other example deemed appropriate by staff)

- Being removed from a lesson
- Being late to the Academy twice in a week
- Being late to lessons
- Silly/inappropriate behaviour around the Academy

If your child is given a detention for that evening, we will inform you via the App and will have a 1.00pm cut off. Any incident after 1.00pm will result in the detention occurring the following day. Teachers will escort students to their detention at the end of the day in the canteen. There will also be a Senior Leadership detention every Friday for one hour for repeat offences or more serious incidents. While we do not need parental permission to place your child in a detention, we of course want to ensure you are informed in advance and know where they are.

Detentions will run at the following times:

Monday: 3.30pm - 4.00pm

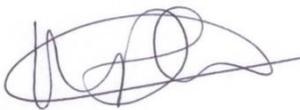
Tuesday – Friday: 2.30pm – 3.00pm

Senior Leadership Detention – Friday: 2.30pm – 3.30pm

The vast majority of children in the Academy will never be placed in a detention and they will continue to work hard and excel in what they do, but we are committed to ensuring learning is not disrupted and poor behaviour will result in a consequence. I thank you in anticipation of your support of the above changes and for discussing them and enforcing them with your child ready for a smooth start in January.

Again, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully



Mr Allen
Trust Senior Vice Principal