



5 October 2018

Dear Parents/carers,

I am writing to you to let you know about some changes we have introduced to our praise and sanctions policy. However, let me first take this opportunity to congratulate our students and you for such a wonderful start to the new year. Our GCSE results this year have been fantastic, reflecting the hard work of staff and students. The new uniforms look fantastic and have been commented on by several members of the public and visitors.

Conduct Diamond and Diaries

This year we have introduced a new Conduct Diamond which we hope will develop our rewards system for students and provide extra support for students who need it. You may have noticed that your children have been asking you to sign their Diary each week. We believe that we work in a partnership of school, student and parent. By signing the diary, you are able to monitor homework, notes from staff and important events which are coming up such as tests and have conversations about these.

You may have also seen some new stamps in the Diary which say either RESPECT or DISRESPECT. These stamps are being given to students outside of lessons, where perhaps in the past, we were unable to praise students for their efforts and actions or adequately monitor poor behaviour. In class, our R2-4 and behaviour point system will continue to operate and text messages sent to you each day (please keep us up to date with phone numbers so that you receive this information). RESPECT stamps will also be turned into R2 points at the end of each week. Tutors will be monitoring Diaries for stamps; completion of homework entries and parental signatures. If students complete all of these things to a high standard, then they will receive a RESPECT stamp at the top of the page on the following week, which gives students access to the MUGA (football pitches), early lunch and other rewards.

Please congratulate your children if you see these. Students who receive DISRESPECT stamps may face further sanctions depending on the number they receive.

At the end of each half term, students will be given a statement of points received. Praise points may then be translated into rewards such as pencils, calculators or equipment, depending on the number of points. They may decide to save these points up for a bigger reward later in the year such as vouchers, musical instruments or tablet computers. You will also be receiving postcards and letters to congratulate them. Please look in your child's Diary for our new Conduct Diamond.

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Mobile Phones

This is to remind you of our policy and process for the use of mobile phones. Students are allowed to bring phones to school, if you feel they are necessary. However, these must be switched off and headphones removed, **before** entering the school site and then handed in to a member of the pastoral staff by 8.15 am. Phones are given back to students at the end of the day, **but not be used until they have left the school site.**

Students found in possession or using the phone will have it confiscated and parents will have to arrange to collect it the following day.

Holiday and other important dates

Please visit our new website for further details of all policies and to keep up to date with activities in the school. In the meantime, here is a list of important dates which are coming up this term:

Open Evening	Thursday 11th October, 4 - 6.30 pm School closes 12.30 pm
Year 7 Tutor Evening	Wednesday 17th October, 4 - 6.30 pm
Autumn half term holiday	Monday 22nd October 2018 to Friday 26th October 2018
Diwali	Thursday 7th November 2019 - School Open
Year 11 College Information Evening	Wednesday 14th October, 4 - 6.30 pm
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 28th November, 4 - 6.30 pm
School Play	Wednesday 12th - Friday 14th December. Please check for times.
Christmas holiday	Monday 24th December 2018 to Friday 4th January 2019

Yours faithfully

Ian Wilson
Headteacher