

21 November 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

We have now had two months of operating our new behaviour system. The system is running smoothly and provides greater consistency of expectation across classrooms and different departments.

Students understand that after a number of warnings in class (C1, C2 and C3) they will be asked to move to another room for the remainder of the lesson - this is stage 4 of our consequence based system and called a C4.

At the C4 stage, students are expected to complete a reflection form and will often receive a detention too. You are notified about detentions electronically, where we have up to date contact details, and a paper copy of a letter regarding the detention is given to students to take home. If the C4 is not completed successfully then a C5 will be used.

A C5 is normally a day in our Consequences Room away from lessons and following a different routine. If the Consequence Room expectations are not met students will be excluded from school for a day (stage 6 or C6 in our new system), they then repeat the day in the Consequences Room.

Where behaviour is poor over a period of time students are placed on report and parents or carers come to a meeting with the Head of Year or senior staff to discuss how we can work together. We want to ensure school rules are followed and that teachers are able to teach. Report cards are a way for us to monitor this. Sometimes we will ask parents and students to sign a contract making clear our expectations at this meeting.

Sadly, there are occasions when we do not think there is any more we can do to help a child learn in our school. When this is the case we discuss alternatives with parents/carers and students and often look at 'managed moves' which are a trial period in another school. In the last few weeks I have also had to take the unusual step of permanently excluding two students from Park. On one occasion a boy assaulted another child without provocation or warning and most recently I permanently excluded a student for bringing a knife into school.

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I think you will agree it is important that as a school we take a clear stand on knives and any other offensive weapon in school. Knives should not be carried by anyone either in or outside of school. Our policy on offensive weapons and the consequence of bringing one into school is very clear. Please make sure your child understands that they must not bring anything to school which might be considered an offensive weapon. It is also important if your child is aware of anyone with a knife or an offensive weapon that they inform a member of staff immediately.

On a lighter note you will see that enclosed with this letter is a programme of the many events in Park over the next month as we celebrate the festive season and look forward to the Christmas holidays. Do take time to have a look at what is on offer which again shows why we say that we are 'much more than just a school'.

We will break up for Christmas on Friday, 16 December after the students have had a Family Christmas lunch which we provide free to all students. Students return to school on Tuesday, 3 January 2017 at 8.25am.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Anders".

Christopher Anders
Headteacher