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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a good half term with your family and are now looking forward to the summer and hopefully some continuing good weather.

I wanted to let you know that since slightly changing the behaviour system at the end of April, we have seen a reduction in the numbers of students receiving detentions for low level disruption in lessons. This clearly benefits students in the room as it improves the learning environment for all. Thank you to parents and carers who continue to support the school and staff within it when sanctions have to be issued. This is never done lightly and with your support we not only improve the life chances for your son or daughter but also for the other students who are part of our community as the learning environment we wish to promote is achieved.

We still have students receiving detentions for not arriving to lessons with books or correct equipment. If your child is receiving detentions for these issues, please can I ask for your continuing support to encourage and help them organise themselves so they leave for school with everything they need.

Since we returned from half term, we have seen an increase in the number of students arriving late to school. This is something we need to quickly reduce. We continue to stress to students the need to **be in the building by 8.25 am** so lessons begin by 8.30 am enabling a prompt start to the day. The majority of our students show excellent punctuality but some are increasingly disrupting the beginning of lessons which is not fair on the other students or teachers and also demonstrates a lack of manners. As well as being a basic life skill, it is also important as when students apply to 6th form, college or for an apprenticeship when in Year 11, we have to provide accurate figures regarding punctuality and attendance which come directly off our system. Students who have excellent punctuality and attendance obviously put themselves in a far stronger position to secure the destination of their choice.

To get some of our students back into good habits, the following will take place if students are late:

In a half term:

- 1st time late = a warning
- 2nd time late = a final warning
- 3rd time late = 1 hour detention
- 4th time late = 2 hour SLT detention
- 5th time late and beyond = a day spent in the consequence room

One of the benefits of being a community school is that nearly all of our students live within walking distance of school. Students really should not be relying on you as parents/carers to bring them to school when of secondary school age, so we encourage them to walk to school to promote healthy lifestyles as well as to take the pressure off the adults in their lives who are busy. This reduces the stress on you in the mornings and puts responsibility back onto the students and is one small part of preparing them as independent young adults.

As a school, we thank you for your continuing support when trusting us with the care of your son or daughter.

Yours sincerely

S Adams
Deputy Headteacher