



# ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents / Carers,

26<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## **Update for Parents**

Since the start of term, staff have awarded over 8000 positive recognition points to students who have demonstrated our key values of Wisdom, Aspiration, Learning Together and Kindness (WALK). With the launch of our new Arbor parent App, which is planned for after October half term, it will be possible for you to be kept regularly updated with how your child is getting on in school.

Attendance at school every day is a proven contributor to academic success and so, as we recognise how well our students are learning and contributing to our vision of "Life in all its fullness", we are also awarding recognition points to students who have 100% attendance in a week. We have listened to parental feedback, and feedback from our students, that highlights the need to recognise those students who consistently get it right at school day in, day out and as a result students will also gain recognition points if they do not receive any negative points in a week. We will take every opportunity to celebrate those students who are demonstrating the St Aidan's values and will continue to seek the views of our students through our student council meetings.

To further raise the standards of expectations around school, we encourage students to be punctual both to school and to all lessons, to complete all homework and to be correctly dressed at all times. All of this will reduce lost learning time and support every child in reaching their potential. When a student does not meet our expectations, they are asked to fix their behaviour by teachers and will receive a verbal warning. In an overwhelming majority of cases, this is enough to ensure students get back on track. Any student who persists with poor behaviour choices, will receive a further warning, and the member of staff will record this point on Arbor. If a student accumulates five behaviour points in a half term, they will need to attend an afterschool detention where their behaviour choices will be discussed, and they will be supported with strategies to get it right. Students will also be able to avoid getting behaviour points if they complete all their homework on time, continue to be in correct uniform, and are on time to school and lessons. As with all our expectations, we fully appreciate that for a small number of students, reasonable adjustments must be made to our expectations to ensure we are meeting their individual needs. We are always willing to talk to our students if they feel they have been treated unfairly and we believe in working together with students and families to ensure our systems support the need for a calm learning environment

As a school the safeguarding of students is paramount. With such a large school site it is important that we have processes in place to ensure students are kept safe at all times. We encourage students to use the toilets at break and lunchtime so that they do not need to leave a lesson and interrupt their learning or those of their classmates. Members of staff are on duty outside the toilets at break and lunchtime to ensure appropriate use, safety, and monitor over-crowding. We appreciate there may be times when a student needs to use a toilet during lesson time. If a student needs to leave a lesson to go to the toilet, the teacher will notify the on-call duty member of staff who will ensure the student is able to access the toilets quickly and safely and get back to their class as soon as possible.

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Headteacher: Mrs S Dover

Behaviour at St. Aidan's continues to be outstanding, and we are very proud of all of our students. We appreciate that young people sometimes make some poor choices, but we believe that by raising our expectations even higher, our students will continue to flourish. For those students who need some adjustments to our systems, we always have these conversations with young people and parents / carers and our ethos of supporting student development through our pastoral interactions with them, remains true.

I look forward to sharing news of the Arbor parent App. as soon as we can and ask that you continue to communicate with us as we iron out any issues with moving to a completely new information system.

Kind regards

Iain Addison  
Deputy Headteacher

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