



Headteacher: Mrs J Veal, BA
Cheddon Road
Taunton TA2 7QP
Tel: 01823 348200
Email: reception@thetauntonacademy.com
www.thetauntonacademy.com



31st October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Behaviour Expectations

At the academy we have high expectations of student behaviour, as we support students to achieve beyond their potential. We operate a 'choice equals consequence' system and we reinforce this and our high expectations at every opportunity, consistently and fairly. The majority of students make excellent choices enabling them and others to maximise their learning in class and we are really proud of them. In September we introduced 'Learning Stars' boards to all classrooms. This has seen a rise in the ratio of Merits to Behaviour Points of 8:1 and highlights the positive approach we have in reinforcing correct behaviour choices in school.

Merits are issued using the 'Learning Stars' boards in every classroom, giving the students a visual cue that they have made a positive contribution to their learning. Your child can accumulate these and purchase items from the Merit shop. Positive postcards will also be sent home at the end of each term to celebrate the cumulative number of Merits received by your child. There will also be the opportunity to celebrate positive choices in tutor time and during year group assemblies. Please do keep your eye on the website as students in Year 7, 8 and 9 are issued 'Students of the Week' awards and their pictures are proudly displayed there. Effort awards will be issued in Year 10 and 11 in all subjects, as we move towards the end of each term.

As part of our ongoing drive to raise standards of behaviour across the academy, I wish to remind you of our behaviour system for the small number of students who occasionally do not make positive learning choices. Furthermore, I wish to notify you of a slight change to our procedures, as outlined below regarding detentions, which will now run after school from 1510 until 1540.

In line with our behaviour policy, which remains unchanged, students are given two chances (a C1 and a C2) to change any unacceptable behaviour disrupting learning. A third warning (a C3) is issued to a student having been given two previous warnings to modify their behaviour, but who has not done so. This means that the student will be removed ('parked') from the lesson into another classroom, in order not to

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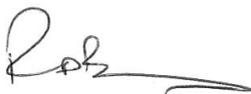
prevent the other students from learning. Previously, as part of the consequence system, this would also have led to a lunchtime detention being issued. However, to ensure that every student takes more responsibility for their behaviour and learning, students will now be expected to stay for 30 minutes after school the following day. During this time the teacher who has issued the 'C3' will meet them to discuss the choices that they made. This allows them to rebuild the relationship and to understand what went wrong and how they could have chosen to behave better before they return to the class for the next lesson. This helps enable the student to be more successful and learn from any mistakes made. The classroom teacher who has issued the detention will contact you directly by phone on the day to inform you of the incident, giving more details about what happened. You will also receive an email notification.

If your child receives multiple C3 logs in a day then they will be kept for 50 minutes with their Year Leader, who will contact you directly that day with regards to this.

Very occasionally, a student's behaviour warrants a C4 log. This fourth level of behaviour (a C4) is issued for more serious incidents including truancy and refusal. These will now lead to a detention for one hour on a Friday after school, a period of time in the Inclusion Room or a period of fixed term exclusion. If your child receives a C4 log, the Head of Faculty or Year Leader will contact you directly to discuss the incident that occurred in their subject area or around the school grounds.

We are confident that with your support we will continue to raise standards of behaviour both in school and within the community. This in turn will lead to greater success for all our students in all aspects of life and continue to raise the school's profile in the local area.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Berry', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr R Berry
Deputy Head teacher
(Student Development and Welfare)