



Lealands
High School
A Specialist Sports College
Aspire Believe Achieve

Lealands High School
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28th March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of another busy term at Lealands, I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you a very happy Easter.

As we begin the next term, I would like to clarify a few of our expectations to ensure that everyone understands these and that we are all working together in the best interests of our students.

In school, we try to avoid unnecessary conflict by being clear about expectations and the consequences for not following these. This past term, our new approach to dealing with a small amount of poor behaviour in classrooms is having a significant impact, but there is more to do and the system is being refined. For example, we still have far too many instances where students do not attend a detention set by their class teacher leading to unnecessary escalation.

It is important that all our students respect the school and their teachers, recognising the authority that all members of staff have to enforce our expectations and rules. We believe strongly in the partnership with parents to ensure this happens which is why we communicate using text messages, learning diaries and through letters so that parents are informed when their child is meeting very high expectations consistently and when they are not. After Easter, our new parent APP will streamline this communication even further.

We believe respect and high standards begins with being properly attired and equipped for the environment and purpose. We have consistent expectations for uniform and expect all students to adhere to these. The vast majority of our students achieve this every day and it is only fair that where others do not, that they face consequences. Occasionally, there may be issues or emergencies with uniform that cannot be overcome immediately. Should this be the case, please inform your child's Pastoral Support Manager. However, no student will be allowed to circulate around the school site for more than one day in any non-uniform item and in most cases this will not be allowed at all. In particular, please can you remind your child that ties and blazers must be worn at all times in school, shoes must be plain black and of a leather (not trainer) type material and no leggings or overly tight trousers are allowed. In addition, we do not allow hoods to be up in the school building and coats are removed before entering classrooms.

As in all aspects of life, it is important to be equipped for the task. Every student should have their learning diary with them in every lesson. This is important for communication and recording vital learning information. If a student loses or damages their diary, they are expected to pay for a replacement straight away.

Our changes to the lateness system following February half term have worked extremely well and there are now only a handful of students late each day. We very much appreciate your support with this. As lessons start on time at 8:45am, it is crucially important that students are all in school by

8:40am so that they show respect to their teachers and fellow students by allowing all lessons to start on time uninterrupted. After Easter, we will also be focusing on punctuality to lessons after breaktime and lunchtime to ensure that all students understand the importance of taking responsibility for getting themselves to lessons on time.

Most parents and students recognise the importance of good attendance and we do a great deal to encourage and reward this. On occasion, anyone may become too ill to attend school, but we analyse patterns of attendance very carefully and recognise that in some cases, a small minority of students are taking too many individual days off for very minor ailments that should not prevent attendance at school.

I am sometimes very disappointed to hear that, although students usually behave very well in school, this occasionally does not continue into the wider community. Please can you stress to your child that their behaviour on the way to and from school reflects on us all and that with increased numbers in school, local residents and shop keepers can sometimes become intimidated by large numbers of young people being loud and inappropriate as well as congregating together in large groups. We will act if behaviour is deemed to be inappropriate whilst a student is representing Lealands High School and wearing our uniform.

Although this may read like a list of complaints, it is not intended to be so. The vast majority of our students follow our expectations exceptionally well all of the time. We wish to ensure that all students do this in the interests of everyone and we recognise the need for our consistent expectations to be well communicated and supported by our parent community.

With best wishes,



Mr J Burridge
Headteacher