

8th December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Culture for Learning Policy amendments

I am writing to update you on some amendments we have made to our culture for learning policy; these changes will take effect from the start of Term 3 in January 2024.

We delivered these messages to our young people via the Culture tutor session and assemblies this week. Next week will be spent celebrating academic success with our students via our Accolades assemblies.

The majority of our students strive every day to be the best version of themselves however, with a growing student population, we have had to review our behaviour systems and processes to accommodate and support the students who sometimes make the wrong choices. If this happens, students need to have an immediate sanction to mitigate a cycle of further behaviour breaches which ultimately then impacts on the culture of excellence we strive to achieve every day.

If a student presents as being 'disengaged' from their learning, they will be placed in ibase for the rest of the day and stay until 4.15pm. If they fail ibase, then they will be suspended from the Academy.

If a student is booked into ibase for the day and then refuses to go into ibase, they will be suspended from the Academy.

We are also introducing 30 minute lunchtime reflections next term; if a student arrives after 9am they have to complete a lunchtime reflection on that day. Punctuality to the Academy is essential for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. This lunchtime reflection has also been added to our support room sanctions which are as follows:

- 1 x support call = lunchtime reflection
- 2 x support calls = 45 minute reflection
- 3 x support calls = 90 minute reflection
- 4 x support calls = ibase (internal exclusion room)
- 5 x support calls = Leadership Classrooms
- 6 x support calls = SAFE suspension

Continued overleaf

Acting Heads of School - Dr I Goldberg & Mrs N Robinson

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Safeguarding is paramount in the Academy and it is at the forefront of everything we do. Due to increasing student numbers, the number of students with additional needs have also increased. Previously we have had a 'leave lesson 5 minutes early' card to support students accessing the catering outlets. This has resulted in a larger number of students being out of lessons at changeover waiting for the outlets to open or wandering and this has presented a challenge due to ensuring they are being adequately supervised.

All SEND students who previously had a '5 minute early card' will have this replaced with a 'collect food card/leave first card' for them to leave sessions 2 and 4 (before break and lunch) **3 minutes** early to ensure they are first at the food outlets. For all the other lessons they will 'leave first' as the rest of the class pack away. This means they are not moving around the building with the rest of the student population. We understand that any change may be unsettling to some of our students with SEND and we hope that you will support us in explaining to the students that they are not losing their '5 minute early card' but it has had to be changed due to the volume of students that we now have who need this adaptation.

A student who does not have SEND but who had a '5 minute leave early card', will now receive a 'leave first' card.

As explained above, we have communicated this with the students in our culture sessions, but I know that sometimes students can need further clarification and I hope that this letter serves to do that.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Your child's 360 Year Team Manager or their SEND keyworker will be able to assist with most queries.

In the meantime we appreciate your support with these changes.

Many Thanks

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Nat Robinson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Natasha Robinson
Acting Head of School