



19 April 2024

Dear parent/carer

As we approach the end of the first week of term, we felt it was important to keep you updated regarding the first week of implementation of our new Positive Behaviour system.

Positive Behaviour – A fair and consistent approach to behaviour management

As outlined in our last letter, our CPD Day on Monday 15th April engaged all staff in training that aimed to ensure every student is supported within an environment that aims to get the best from them, and supports them in being successful. The core focus of the day was the idea of Positive Regard: ensuring students can expect all staff at Alsop to **Care for them, Support them, Encourage them** to be the best that they can be, but also **Challenge them** to work hard and behave well.

On Tuesday afternoon, we shared a **Guide for Parents**, which I hope you found helpful in explaining the Positive Behaviour system. The launch of Positive Behaviour this week has seen the vast majority of students engaging positively. It has been a joy to see so many students arriving to school, with their planners, visibly showing that they are ready for the day ahead. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for your support in ensuring your child arrives to school with their planner. We hope you have found the planner useful in seeing the number of reward stamps your child has received, and used this to talk with your child about all the things that are going well. Equally, you will be able to view any conduct reminders that have been issued, and support school in encouraging positive improvement where this is needed.

Some parents will have received email notifications where their child has received a detention. These are important notifications as they not only provide you with information for the reason for detentions, but also the time and date of the detention. If you have signed up for the 'Your Child At School' App, these notifications will be sent through the App. If you have not yet signed up to for the App, a further email will be sent out to parents today with instructions of how you can do this. If you have not received the email, please do get in touch with the school office to let us know and we will share this information with you.

We would like to take this opportunity to clarify a few aspects of our new systems. These are as follows:

Arrival to and from school: As outlined in our last letter, we have asked all students to only use the Student Entrance at the rear of the school when arriving at and leaving school (Walton Village side). The student entrance is staffed to ensure students can access the school at all times. This includes when students arrive late to school. We would like to thank our students for responding



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positively to this request. Some parents and students have requested specific provision to enable their child to use the Main Entrance (Queens Drive). Whilst we are aiming to keep this to a minimum, we recognise certain instances where this is necessary. Those students have been issued with a Pass that is stuck inside their planner. These students will be permitted to use the Queens Drive Entrance, but will be asked to show their pass when they leave. All of these students have been informed. If your child does not have one of these passes, and you feel there is a specific reason why they should leave via this entrance, please contact your child's progress leader to discuss your child's specific needs.

Toilet Access: In our letter sent out on Tuesday, we informed parents that we were opening more toilets around the school, but also, were only allowing access to toilets where specific needs exist, or where students have express permission from their teacher and a toilet pass has been issued. We have stressed to staff the importance of keeping students in lessons as far as is possible. The more time students spend out of lessons, will impact on their learning and risks them falling behind. For this reason, we have issued guidance to staff that aims to minimise the amount of time students spend out of lessons, including time out to go to the toilet.

If a student has a Toilet Pass sticker in planner due to a medical need: Staff have been asked to allow the student to go to the toilet immediately. They will record the time out on the Toilet Pass in the student's planner. That way, parents and support staff in school can monitor how often students are using their pass so that any further support can be planned as required.

If a student without a medical need asks to go to the toilet: Staff have been asked to ask if the student can wait for a certain amount of time e.g. 10 minutes/until the end of the lesson. Staff have then been asked to ask discretely 'Is this urgent?'. All of this is to ascertain whether there is an urgent need for the student to leave the lesson to go to the toilet. If the student's response is 'Yes', staff will issue their toilet pass, as will write a note in the student's planner. Parents and staff will then be able to monitor how often their child is leaving lessons to use the toilet.

We would appreciate your support in ensuring students try to use toilets at breaktimes and lunchtimes to avoid the need to leave lessons.

Time-Out/Early Exit Passes: Some students in school, who have identified specific need, have been issued with a Time-Out Pass/Early Exit Pass, which allows the, to exit lessons to access specific support in school. The Inclusion Team have been working hard to ensure each student who requires such a pass, has been issued with a pass and where these have been issued, parents have been contacted. If you feel your child requires a Time-Out Pass/Early Exit Pass and you have not been contacted, or your child does not have one of these passes in their Planner, please contact your child's progress leader to discuss your child's specific needs.



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Overall, this has been a positive week at Alsom and we thank you and our students for your support. In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

Mr C Wilcocks
Chief Executive Officer

Mr G Evans
Executive Headteacher

Mr B Conboy
Chair of Governors