



Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

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Inspiring Excellence Together

New expectations and consequences regarding punctuality to school

3rd July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the last five years, Montgomery has gradually increased its expectations regarding standards of behaviour. The report from our recent OFSTED inspection, due to be published before the end of term, highlights the improvements in behaviour and positive attitudes towards their learning.

This was typified by the introduction of a policy regarding lates to lessons in November 2022. In the last 18 months, this policy has reduced lates to lessons by 90% to a point where on average only 5-10 students a day out of a possible 1170 are late to their lessons. This means the overwhelming majority are maximising their learning time in class. Attendance and lateness to school are also factors that affect learning time. Attendance continues to improve yet over recent weeks we have noticed a growing number of students are arriving late to school.

Good punctuality is one of life's key skills and lateness can have a negative impact on job prospects, often being a disciplinary issue for many employers. One of our aims here at Montgomery is to help develop our students into well rounded and successful young people, such as ensuring they all understand the importance of punctuality.

When students arrive late to school, they not only impact their own learning but they also disrupt the learning of others. Students arriving late disturb the start to lessons, distracting teachers and other students from the learning that is taking place. We also have to use important administrative time to manage late arrivals.

In an effort to encourage students to arrive on time we are reinforcing our consequences for lateness to school.

- **All students who arrive after 8.45am but before the gate closes at 8.50am will receive a 15-minute detention after school the same day**
- **Any student who arrives after 8.50am will receive a 60-minute detention after school the same day**

Parents and carers will be informed via text message if their child has been late and has been given either a 15-minute or 60-minute detention after school that day.

We understand that there are occasions which may cause students to be late that are outside their or their parents/carers control, and we will be receptive if we are contacted about such incidents as quickly as possible. However, these scenarios are few and far between and will not include everyday issues that can be resolved by setting off on the journey to school earlier. A bus being late or a significant incident at home may be considered and the validity of any reason will be decided by the school.



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We will be starting this approach with **Year 9 and Year 10 from Monday July 8th** adding **Year 7 and Year 8 from Monday July 15th**.

Introducing this policy before the end of term will give us an opportunity to iron out any logistical issues before of the new academic year in September.

We hope that you can understand the reasons why we are working hard to improve punctuality and despite the pressures of everyday life, can support us here at Montgomery to better equip your child for their future and instil the importance of good time keeping as part of their habits and character.

Please can you talk through this policy with your son or daughter so that they are clear on the expectations regarding punctuality to school. For Year 10 students, punctuality is also a prerequisite for getting their blue Year 11 tie.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Careless
Headteacher