

27 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of this half term, I would like to thank you for all your continued support as we work together as a school community to raise standards. We have had an extremely successful term with the vast majority of students responding extremely positively to our higher expectations.

The Birkenhead Park School Learning Habits provide a framework to ensure our core values (Positivity, Ambition, Resilience, Thoughtful) are embedded within our daily practice. Every student will be expected to uphold these values.

As a reminder our learning habits are:

- Perfect Uniform
- Positive Behaviour
- Attendance and Punctuality
- Homework
- Equipment

Pastoral structure – Monday 17th April

As you will be aware, there have been a number of changes this academic year as we continue our relentless drive towards school improvement to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of our students. I would like to share with you some minor changes to the leadership of pastoral care from Monday 17th April.

Mrs Kirwan - Pastoral Leader Year 7 and Year 6/7 Transition

- Miss Chong - Year Leader 7

Miss Gidman – Pastoral Leader Year 8, 9, 10, 11

- Miss Burns – Year Leader 8
- Miss Galer – Year Leader 9
- Mr Huyton – Year Leader 10
- Mr Lodge – Year Leader 11

Learning Habit - Perfect Uniform

Uniform is considered a very important aspect of our ethos and helps to set the tone for the positive learning environment that we have within school. We expect all our students to attend the school in full school uniform. You will note from my previous letter that we expect all students to **wear plain black school shoes from Monday 17th April. (Year 7 – 10 only).**



Our new term starts for students on **Monday 17th April 2023** and we reserve the right to send students home at the start of the day without further notice if they are not meeting our uniform expectations, and we do not feel that all reasonable efforts have been made to resolve the issue. In these exceptional circumstances, your child would be sent home to resolve the issue and we would welcome them back to school as soon as possible so they can continue their learning once the problem has been resolved.

Learning Habit - Positive behaviour

As I promised in my previous letter, we have been evaluating all aspects of our current practice to enrich the school experience for every student, this has included how we improve the climate for learning for the vast amount of students. We have high expectations, whilst sometimes this may be challenging, we expect our students to live by our learning habits 100% of the time. If they do this, their hard work will be recognised.

From **Monday 17th April**, students who persistently disrupt the learning of others will be issued with an appropriate school sanction. This will include:

Sanction	<p>Time 3:05pm onwards – we will make every effort to contact parents and carers, by receiving this letter you give consent to supporting this behaviour strategy.</p> <p>In the unlikely event exemptions are requested these will be reviewed by SLT and a decision communicated to the parents and carers.</p>
Same day Faculty/Pastoral detention after school	30 minutes
Same day whole school detention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy - Failure to attend previous day's faculty/pastoral detention 	1 hour
Internal Suspension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:15am – 3:35pm. (Extended school day) 	Decided by Curriculum, Pastoral and Senior Leadership Team Following day
Fixed Term Suspension	Decided by Curriculum, Pastoral and Senior Leadership Team



Learning Habit - Attendance and Punctuality

It is important for parents to be aware there is a clear link between attendance and student outcomes at GCSE. The school expectation is that students attend 100% of the time. There is no reason for children who attend Birkenhead Park School to attend less than their peers at other schools across the country. Your child will compete against these other students to gain the best GCSEs possible and the surest way to undermine your own child's success is to allow them to take time off. We need to work together to improve the life chances of the children who attend Birkenhead Park School.

Tutor time starts at 8:35am, punctuality is an important habit for working and we urge you to help your child develop this important skill. **Detentions will be given for students who arrive after 8:35am.**

Learning Habit - Homework

Please support your child in completing homework tasks. These are set every week and are sent home in student books. The expectation is they develop this as a learning habit. Homework club is available after school to support students who would like help. Detentions for not completing homework will be given out.

Learning Habit - Equipment

BPS students have responded extremely positively to our expectations regarding equipment. It has been lovely to see so many students arriving to school fully equipped and ready to learn.

Class of 2028

It was a pleasure to welcome our Class of 2028 into school last week to meet leaders and teachers. National offer day saw Birkenhead Park go over our Pupil Admission Numbers to accommodate the number of children joining us in September 2023. We are delighted to welcome so many new and old families to BPS. Thank you for putting your trust in us.

Reading Strategy

I am delighted to share that over 100 students have taken part in the 16 before 16 challenge, this includes reading 16 classic books before the age of 16. We have also had our first student graduate and there are more students close to celebrating this amazing achievement.

Thank you once again for working with us to continue the high standards that we are now proud to associate with our school.

We hope that you and your families enjoy a restful Spring Break. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's year leader in the first instance.



The
Birkenhead Park
School

Yours faithfully

P. A.

Peter Mee
Head of School