Bradley Stoke Community School

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BSCS/24-040

8th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope you and your family had a positive half term break and your child(ren) are looking forward to Term 2. We have been impressed with the vast majority of students and their attitude towards their learning so far this year, and we have been paying tribute in this week's assemblies to our students who, between them, achieved some 64,000 Tutor Points last term!

In Term 2, we will be encouraging and supporting all students to Be Ready and Be the Best You by launching the next phase of our behaviour curriculum – with a focus on punctuality and internal truancy. This is to ensure that all students achieve their best and to prevent disruption to learning and the impact both on students and staff this brings.

To that end, we have been speaking to each year group in assembly this week about the importance of punctuality to school each morning and to every lesson, linking it to punctuality in the world of work. We have been stressing the impact of truancy and lateness, with each minute late to lesson equating to lost learning as well as the disruption and frustration to students' peers when teachers have the starts of lessons disrupted.

Punctuality - How will we respond to students who are late?
Definition:

- Late to lesson is anything after 3 minutes after the lesson started
- Late to school is anything after 8:20am

Sanctions:

- 3 x late to lessons in one week (+ 3 mins) = 30 minutes community detention
- 1 x late to school (after 8:20am) = 30 minutes community detention

Where students are found to be gaining regular late sanctions, they will be subject to additional intervention and support which could include meetings with parents, a period of time on punctuality report or higher-level sanctions such as school swap.

The great majority of students attend every lesson every day, but we have a small percentage of students who choose not to go to specific lessons. This is clearly a very serious issue for a number of reasons. Although we are keen to support these students and will work with them to understand why these choices are being made and put support in place, we are using this week's assemblies to ensure all students are clear about the consequences for truanting.

Truancy - how will we respond to students who are found to be truanting a lesson?

- The student will be sent to RESET for the remainder of the day
- Parents/Carers will be invited in for a meeting

- Students and Parents/Carers will sign a contract relating to truancy and punctual arrival at lessons which will include targets and regular review dates
- Should there be repeated incidents of truancy, there will be a graduated approach to intervention and support which could include school swap or a placement at Olympus Development Hub, an Olympus Trust off-site provision, which provides personalised learning experiences for students.
- We will, of course, also be looking to identify any additional factors relating to these behaviours to provide optimum support for all students.

Please be assured that the support and intervention to which we are referring applies to a small minority of students across the school and we will be meeting with families concerned in the coming days. Before any support, intervention or sanctions are implemented we will investigate contexts carefully because we are aware that, for some students, there are legitimate reasons for lateness.

As ever, if you have any queries, please contact your child's Tutor or Head of Year. Thank you for your support which enables BSCS to be the vibrant learning community we all know and love.

Kind regards,

Mrs Andrea William-Jones
Assistant Headteacher: Behaviour and Attitudes