

16 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carers,

### **Updates to Academy systems**

Firstly, can I say thank you to all parents, carers and families for your support over the first two weeks of term. Returning to school during a peak in COVID cases both nationally and locally has placed additional challenges on the school, your support with everything we are trying to achieve is welcomed.

The students, have risen to my challenge to 'Be the Best They Can Be' and the Academy is a purposeful environment during lessons.

Currently if a student is issued a detention (a C4) they are expected to attend after school for 30 minutes. This - if not completed - then escalates to an hour detention after school. As of **Monday 17 January 2022** we will be making some subtle changes to the detention system.

A C4 will now initially result in a detention at lunch time. All students who are on detention during lunch will still have full access to all options for lunch (sandwiches, paninis and pizzas as well as the hot meal counter.)

It is our aim that this means students can still receive a consequence for any issues that warrant a consequence, but creates a better opportunity for students to be successful and complete the detention. We hope this means that more students have the opportunity to access our enrichment program (which can be found on social media and the Academy's website).

By making a positive choice, we hope that any student with a detention can deal with the issue more effectively and therefore negate the need for further detentions or potential time in the Reflection Room as a result.

Finally, it is an expectation that all students have a planner. Students were given a planner, at no cost, by the Academy in September. Can we please ask that parents support the Academy in ensuring that your child has a planner; if they do not, please either ensure that your child has the funds to replace their planner or if this is an issue, please liaise with your child's Learning Manager in the first instance. Having a planner is an effective tool, not just for organisation but also for home communication. Any detention issued, for example, will lead to a yellow sticker in your child's planner, which is easy to monitor as a parent if your child is equipped with one.

Finally, thank you to those parents who attended the Year 9 and Year 8 Guided Pathways events this week, whether in person or virtually. Should you not have taken part in these sessions, please check the Academy website for information. Should you have any specific questions relating to

Guided Pathways, please email the [enquiries@acklam.outwood.com](mailto:enquiries@acklam.outwood.com) email address and mark the email for the attention of Mr Rhodes.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Skidmore', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Graham Skidmore  
Principal

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A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.