

Our Ref: LE2/DBR

Wednesday 17th April 2024

Dear Parent/Carers

Standards and Expectations

We hope you all had an enjoyable Easter Break and it has been wonderful to welcome our students back to school for the final term of the academic year. All students were shown our regular first day online “Expectations and Standards” assembly during form time. This assembly explains and reminds all of our students of our “Oldbury Academy Expects” routines which are vital to ensuring a safe, calm and orderly environment where students are able to learn free from disruption.

Our first week of term in-person assemblies to all students then focussed on two very important areas of standards and expectations: Our approach to the restricted use of mobile phones/electronic devices and respecting our environment.

Respecting Our Environment

Unfortunately, before Easter, we saw an increase in damage to our building, particularly in our toilet areas. This meant some of our toilet areas had to be put out of action. Our assemblies last week focussed on the school’s responsibility to ensure all staff and students have adequate toilet facilities and the need for students to respect these facilities. The message to students was really clear ‘your school, your facilities, your responsibility’.

Outlined in the assembly was a plan moving forward to tackle any damage or graffiti to our school. We need to make it absolutely clear to both students and parents that, if any damage is caused in school, students will be identified and sanctioned for this damage.

Students were also reminded of the ‘1 student, 1 cubicle at any 1 time’ rule. Students put themselves at increased risk if they enter a toilet cubicle at the same time as another student. Please can we ask for your support in reminding your child to respect their school environment and to also keep themselves safe by only entering a toilet cubicle on their own.

Mobile Phones and Headphones/Pods

Students have responded fantastically well to our approach of “never seen, heard or used”. This policy applies throughout the school day (from when students arrive on to school site until the end of the school day), including breaks and lunchtimes.

A reminder to all parents and carers that if a student’s mobile phone or electronic device is “seen, heard or used” the device will be confiscated and kept securely in School Reception until the end of the day. The first time it is confiscated the student can collect the device at the end of the school day. Any further confiscations, a parent or carer is required to collect the phone.

It is therefore essential, if students bring their mobile phone or electronic device to school, they must:

- Never take it out of their pocket or bag, or be seen carrying the phone in their hand.
- Never use it in school (for example to check the time; to check their timetable or to read messages).
- Have it switched to silent mode.

We have welcomed your support with this important and permanent change in school policy and would ask that if you need to contact your child you continue to do so through school reception.

Attendance


Great News! Oldbury Academy's whole school attendance has significantly improved compared with last academic year. This is down to the hard work of parents and carers encouraging students to attend school every school day.

Our '34 Day Challenge' began this week, with students being shared the success criteria in order to be able to attend the Summer Term Reward Trip for their year group. Part of this challenge includes ensuring that a student has no more than 1 period of absence, good luck to all students, it would be fantastic to see as many students as possible on these reward trips!

As always, your support with these and other school matters is very much valued and appreciated.

Please do let us know if there is anything we can support with.

Yours sincerely



Mr L Evans
Deputy Head



Mr D Brittle
Operations Manager