

# Information for parents: how we support our students' behaviour at Stokesley School

Our motto 'being the best we can be' pervades everything we do at Stokesley School, and this is underpinned by our three core expectations that students will be '**ready, respectful and ambitious**'. We firmly believe that to be firm and clear in our expectations is kind: it enables our community to thrive and prepares the young people in our care for a future in which they may not get as much support and guidance, or as many second chances.

## Guiding Principles

As a staff, we work with Pivotal Education to ensure our behaviour management is the best it can be; as a result, we subscribe to the five Pivotal pillars:

1. Consistent, calm adult behaviour
2. First attention to best conduct
3. Relentless routines
4. Scripted interventions
5. Restorative follow up

## Recognition Strategies

We want our behaviour policies to cater for the 95% of students who make positive behaviour choices the first time, every time. Therefore the most important part of our behaviour system is our positive recognition; we do this in the following ways:

1. House points with accumulations linked to e-postcards. House points are awarded by:
  - a. Teacher's stampers in planners\*
  - b. Positive notes collected in planners\*\*
2. Going for Gold tutor group competition/House based competition
3. Hot Chocolate Friday with the Headteacher
4. Phone calls, text messages and e-mails home as well as verbal praise
5. School awards

*\*Planners will be introduced from September 2018*

*\*\*To be trialled from September 2018*

## Sanctions

In an ideal world, our sanctions would be irrelevant as students would always make positive choices about their behaviour; in reality, this is not always the case. For us, the most important thing is having a set of consequences that are clear, simple, consistently applied and fully supported by parents. We also have a full range of supportive intervention programmes aimed at breaking the cycle of poor behaviour not outlined in this document. Over the next few pages, you can see information about:

- Our 'step system' for use in classrooms and around school
- Our flow chart of sanctions
- Other useful information about school rules



## Flow Chart of Sanctions

We do not expect our students to require sanctions but, if they do, the following makes clear the stages they will go through:



If they choose poor behaviour, they will receive negative points. This includes steps (see next page), lateness and breaking school rules.



Negative points are tallied Monday – Friday



If they accrue 4 negative points in one week, they attend an after-school detention on the following Tuesday (parents will be informed on Monday so arrangements can be made)



If they fail to attend their after school detention or misbehave in detention, they will spend the following day in our internal exclusion (IE) room as well as repeating the detention



If they fail to attend the IE room or misbehave in the IE room, they will receive a fixed term exclusion at the discretion of the Headteacher. When they return, they will be expected to repeat the IE room sanction successfully.

**Receiving 4 negative points in one go, or 5 or more negative points in a week results in an immediate transfer to the IE room. Repeated sanctions may trigger the Stage Reporting System.**

## The Step System

We use a step system in the classroom which enables us to support students to make the right choices and avoid a 'zero tolerance' approach. The following is on all classroom walls and in the students' planners:

**Pre-step:** You are encouraged to act positively and are reminded of the school's expectations to always be **ready, respectful** and **ambitious**. You will be given take-up time and there is no reason why you should progress beyond this point.

**Step 1:** You are on a 'step one' because you have not listened to a reminder about the expectations of this classroom/this school or you have broken a school rule. You will receive one negative point and be given a private caution with potential further consequences explained.

**Step 2:** You are on a 'step two' as you have not made a positive choice in terms of your behaviour. You will be reminded of a time when your behaviour has been positive and asked to make those same choices now. This will be your last chance before a further consequence is applied. You will receive 2 negative points.

**Step 3:** You are on a 'step three' as you have not taken the opportunities given to change your behaviour. If this is during lesson time, you will work in another classroom within the department and a 'phone call home' will be made. Whether inside or outside of the classroom, you will receive 3 negative points.

**Step 4:** You have not responded to the behaviour interventions or there has been a one-off serious incident and therefore, a member of staff has been asked to remove you from the current situation. You will receive 4 negative points which results in immediate transfer to the internal exclusion (IE) room.

**Restore and repair:** For all steps and where practical, the member of staff involved will speak to you as soon as possible following an incident to ensure a fresh, positive start can be achieved next time. You are expected to engage with this conversation.

*4 negative points in a week triggers an after-school detention; 5 or more negative points in a week or 4 points in one go trigger an immediate transfer to the internal exclusion room. Make the right choice.*

## Other useful information about school rules

### Mobile Phones

Mobile phones can only be used during social times e.g. before school, break, lunchtime and after school. During social time, mobile phones can only be used in designated areas (the dining hall, the cyber café and classrooms with the permission of the teacher) and should be put away in bags or lockers as soon as the first bell sounds. At all other times and in all other areas, mobile phones should be out of sight and in students' bags. If a student uses his/her mobile phone inappropriately, it will be immediately confiscated and the following will apply:

- First offence: the student can collect his/her phone from reception at the end of the day
- Second offence: parents will be contacted to collect the phone at the end of the week
- Third offence: parents will be contacted for a meeting and further discussion

In some cases, it will be appropriate to use mobile phones in a lesson and/or tutor time; this is only at the express permission of the classroom teacher.

### Uniform

Our uniform policy is on our website; students are expected to come in the correct uniform. If there are extenuating circumstances, parents should contact the school in advance to discuss these with the child's tutor/Head of House. Banned items such as inappropriate jewellery will be confiscated immediately and safely stored until parents can collect it.

### Attendance and Truancy

We expect students' attendance to be above 95% at all times; our policy regarding attendance and time off in term time can be viewed on our website. As an important life skill, we also expect our students to be punctual and therefore lateness to lessons and truancy attracts negative points as part of our sanctions system.

### Smoking

Stokesley School is a no smoking site. Any students caught smoking on site will be immediately transferred to our IE (Internal Exclusion) room. For repeat offenders, we will contact parents and consider interventions such as cessation courses as well as additional sanctions such as supervised social time.

### Detentions

There is one whole school detention on a Tuesday evening after school. Students will be given a detention for accruing 4 negative points in one week. Parents will be informed about a students' detention on a Monday evening to give them time to make arrangements for transport. We expect parents' full support in issuing this sanction. If students do not attend, they will spend the next day in the IE room and complete the detention at the end of the day. Individual staff may also issue detentions at other times such as lunchtime for issues relating to class work.