

5 November 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

UNIFORM AND PUNCTUALITY

I am writing to let you know that we will be having a focus this next week on two very simple but important basics: Punctuality and uniform.

One of our key priorities this year is continuing to improve our culture and ethos. We are making progress but we are still a long way short of how good we should and will be. Our pupils, and you our community, deserve a culture of excellence. This culture is underpinned by our core values:

- **THRIVING** means developing as a rounded individual in a community where young people can grow and blossom;
- **CARING** means looking outwards and being mindful and considerate of others' perspectives and beliefs, being emotionally intelligent and being kind;
- **SUCCEEDING** means pushing and striving to achieve to ultimately get the best results and future career of your dreams.

All of these big ideas and aspirations are grounded in the daily life of school, and it starts off with the basics. We are raising our expectations and are going to accelerate our progress in this respect. The following outline measures for next week, therefore, are not designed to provoke confrontation but to raise standards. We care about our pupils and are determined that they thrive and succeed. This means that our expectations of them are high. This in turn means that we won't compromise on high standards, and these standards begin with punctuality and uniform.

Improving Punctuality

Winterbourne and West Lawn gates will be locked at 8.49 every day next week. Any students arriving after this time will be directed to the Main Gate to enter school.

- Pupils entering the Main Gate after 8.49 will be met by a member of staff and taken to the Upper Gym and issued with a same-day break-time detention. These late students will then sign in and proceed to period 1.
- Any pupil who fails to attend or behave appropriately at the break-time detention will be collected and taken to the Behaviour Support Team office where they will be isolated.

Improving Uniform

Tutors, supported by senior staff, will prioritise ensuring that pupils' uniform is correct and that they are fully equipped. Key uniform means:

- Socks must either be black or white – **NO OTHER COLOURS ARE PERMITTED.**
- Socks, if worn with tights, are only permitted if worn **UNDERNEATH TIGHTS.**
- Only school jumpers with the school logo are acceptable

Principal: Mr James O'Connell

Exeter Road, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 9HZ

Tel: 01626 774091 **Visit:** www.teignmouthsecondary.co.uk

- Years 10 and 11 pupils should be in blazers.
- Jewellery: Ear Piercings – Only studs or small hoops are permitted; nose studs are only permitted if clear; 1 small ring on each hand maximum; no bracelets (excluding medical reasons) are allowed.
- All pupils (unless exempt) should have at least two masks and wear one in corridors.

Any pupil who is missing a piece of the correct uniform will be sent to their Head of Year that morning and either lent the uniform they are missing or issued a temporary uniform pass for exceptional, genuine reasons. Pupils will be isolated if they are defiant and, if necessary, then excluded, but I hope very much that this will not be necessary.

The vast majority of our pupils – around 80% - continuously get these basics right. What we are going to do now is increase this proportion to 100%. Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely



James O'Connell
Principal