



Headteacher: Mrs Claire Elliott, BA Hons PGCE

20th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Recently, I delivered an assembly to students about the importance of mutual respect. I explained that respect is one of the core values in our community and is a trait that we should all have, and live by, to become decent citizens and decent human beings. I also explained that I have noticed an increase in disrespectful and defiant behaviour among a small number of our students, and I want to take this opportunity to address the situation with you.

Disrespect and defiance can take many forms, including refusing to follow school rules or instructions, arguing with teachers or staff, refusing to leave the classroom when Removed, or engaging in disruptive or destructive behaviour. Whatever the specific actions may be, it is important to understand that as a school we view all of these behaviours as acts of either disrespect or defiance: such behaviour is unacceptable at our school and will not be tolerated.

As educators, we are committed to creating a safe and supportive learning environment for all of our students. Disrespect and defiance not only undermines that goal, but it also has a negative impact on the educational experience of other students in the school. It is for this reason, that we are taking a firm stance against this behaviour in order to maintain a positive and productive learning environment for everyone.

We have made adjustments to our behaviour and sanctions policy which will be effective following our return from the Easter holidays. To summarise, if a student behaves in a way which is classified as a C3/ C4 incident of disrespect or defiance, they will be placed into an SLT detention. These are compulsory and will run weekly after school on a Friday between 3.15 and 4.30pm.

It is important to note that for a student's behaviour to be classified as a C3 or C4 incident of disrespect or defiance, they will have repeatedly ignored a clear instruction given by a member of staff. Students will be placed into the next available SLT detention which allows for 24 hours' notice. Parents will be notified using a standard message via email and text message. The log of the specific incident will have been uploaded into Go4Schools and all information available recorded into the 'home notes' section of the negative incident log.

Should a student fail to attend an after-school detention, a reintegration meeting with parents/ carers will be organised prior to the student being allowed back into circulation (normal timetabled lessons and social times).

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OLD BUCKENHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

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In addition to the sanction, the Year group teams will work with the student to identify any underlying causes for the behaviour and what we can do as a school to support the student making positive choices moving forward.

I want to emphasize that our goal is not simply to punish students who engage in disrespect and defiance, but rather to address the underlying issues that may be driving the behaviour and provide support to help students overcome these challenges. We believe that by working together with parents and families, we can create a positive and productive learning environment that benefits all of our students.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Claire Elliott
Headteacher

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