



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Behaviour and Rewards Policy -

As I outlined in my last letter, as part of our drive to support students in getting the basics right - attending every day and on time, wearing the correct uniform, being ready to learn and behaving well, we will be introducing a new behaviour and rewards policy as of **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019**. We have consulted with students, staff, the governing body and parents before finalising our policy. Thank you to those parents and carers who attended the Parents Forum about our new policy; we are grateful for your input.

The new policy has been explained to all students in good time; they are all aware the new policy comes into force as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 and our website will be updated accordingly.

Whilst the overwhelming majority of students get the basics right all of the time, we are an ambitious school with high expectations and feel that further improvements can be made.

The changes to policy can be read in full on the policy section of our website. However, a summary of these changes includes:

1. Clarity on what is expected from great students at Northfield via a new classroom code of conduct
2. A greater emphasis on recognition and rewards
3. Banning the use of mobile phones during the school day
4. The introduction of the Personalised Learning Centre to replace the remove room (from September 2019)
5. Clear strategies and interventions at classroom, pastoral and senior levels
6. Enhanced parental engagement

## Mobile Phones –

From **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019**, phones must be switched off and out of sight either in bags or blazer pockets at all times and in all places during the school day. If a mobile phone **is seen, used or heard** it will be confiscated and made available for collection at the end of the school day. If a phone is confiscated for a third time, parents and carers will need to collect the phone from school. Should a student refuse to hand over his or her mobile phone there will be a strong sanction issued as that is a failure to follow a reasonable request from a member of staff.

Mobile phones must not be seen, heard or used from the moment students arrive on school premises in the morning, to the moment they are **outside of the building** after the school bell at the end of the day.

As a school, we do recognise that mobile phones are important to our students, parents and carers as a safety precaution to be used to and from school. **This policy still enables parents and carers to contact students on the way to and from school.**

We have considered this position at length and believe that:

- mobile phones are a major distraction from learning and affect behaviour. They cause difficulties and disruption both in lessons and around school.
- too many students have come to rely on their mobile phones in between lessons and before school to the extent where they may be late to lessons because they are dealing with messages or calls.
- from a safeguarding point of view, camera phones, access to social media and the ability to text can all lead to bullying.
- as a school, we can do something to reduce the amount of time young people spend on mobile devices, often at the expense of conversation or interaction with their peers.

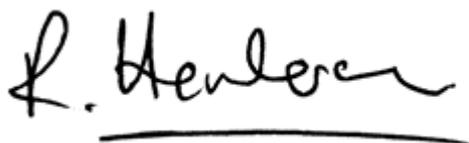
It is important to stress that these procedures are common practice in most schools. The vast majority of students will have no issue with meeting these new requirements. I must stress that the new rule around phones will be applied consistently and fairly and I would ask for your support with this. I do feel it will improve things for our students and they will reap the rewards of a much more focussed climate away from the massive distractions and peer pressure that mobile phones can bring.

Should any parent or carer wish to discuss any of the proposed changes or indeed any other issue, then, as outlined in previous letters, I will be available on the last Friday of each half term to meet with any parent or carer. This half term ends on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**. If you would like an appointment, please e mail your details to [Northfield.School@northfieldssc.org](mailto:Northfield.School@northfieldssc.org). Appointments can be made between 9.00 and 3.30.

I look forward to writing to you again soon to outline some of the events planned to conclude the school year and celebrate our successes.

Thank you for your support.

With every best wish



Richard Henderson

Headteacher