



9/2/2024

Dear Parent Carer,

As we look forward to welcoming our students back to school following the summer break, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some key school expectations and updates ahead of their return. This is so we can have a positive start to the school year following what I hope was a pleasant break away from school.

Ahead of the summer break we wrote to you regarding a number of developments in school. These are all focused on raising the standards, improving our school culture and supporting the aspirational attainment we have for our students.

Our uniform expectations remain the same. We that all students will be in the correct uniform each and every day. The Meden School uniform consists of

- a blazer,
- tie,
- white shirt,
- black school trousers,
- black school shoes
- and an optional black v-neck jumper can be worn.

A single stud earring is allowed in each ear. Students are also expected to wear and display their lanyards around school at all times. **We understand that some families may have had difficulty acquiring blazers and ties. If this is the case, please inform school so we are aware.**

Our expectations card is now called a **Culture Card** and this has been redesigned to reflect this. This indicates its importance in upholding and promoting our school values and maintaining the positive culture in school.

The **Culture Card** will have space for two positive marks or two negative marks, before being exchanged. Positive Cards will receive a Golden Ticket and a message home, but Negative Cards will incur an After-School Detention. The cards focus on students' behaviour outside of the classroom as well as demonstrating Kindness, Politeness and Responsibility.

We want our students to be prepared for school so they can access all of their lessons and their learning. Students should bring the following equipment to school:

- Black Pen (s)
- Green Pen (s)
- Pencil (s)
- Ruler
- Rubber
- **School bag**

As a school, we will always support students and provide what they do not have so they can access their learning, but we expect students to **equip themselves** and **be responsible for the equipment** they have and need.

We will continue to provide homework planners, whiteboards and whiteboard pens for students and **we will exchange equipment** should a student's pen run out, for example.

MOBILE PHONES

In line with current research and findings regarding mobile phones and their negative impact on teenage mental health and school engagement, can I remind parents and students that mobile phones should not be seen or heard in school. If they are seen or heard, they will be confiscated as they contravene our school rules. A detention will also be issued. If a mobile phone is confiscated, we will expect parents to collect it from school. We will not return it direct to the student.

DETENTIONS

Detentions will now be issued and carried out **on the same day.** We want to improve our discipline structures and better work with parents in this regard. Detentions will be shortened to support this from 40mins to 20mins, meaning that there is a consequence attached to the behaviour that day and importantly, they return to school and can start afresh the next day. We know students who catch the buses will need an adjustment and we will text to inform you. Please continue to use the MCAS (My Child at School) app to see a full outline of your child's behaviour, attendance and punctuality. If for any reason you need to contact us to rearrange a detention please email detentions@medenschool.co.uk

SENSE OF BELONGING

This academic year, we are wanting to create a real sense of belonging at the school. We are focusing on developing our extra-curricular offer and a range of events to draw the school community together and improve the school experience for our students. This will be supported and underpinned by our rewards system that is also being introduced and more information about this will follow.

As part of this we are reintroducing a house system and all our students and staff will be allocated to a house. These houses have been given new names and feature local collieries and are represented by new colours shown below.



Students will be able to gain rewards not only for themselves but also for their houses and the total for each house will be displayed on our school website and updated on a weekly basis. Belonging also extends to the parents of our students and if any parent wishes to come in and discuss any changes or updates, you are more than welcome to get in touch.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Morton', written over a horizontal line.

Mr Morton
Deputy Headteacher