

16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

At Applemore College we want all our students to feel happy, safe and successful. We have made some alterations to our behaviour management systems in order to better meet these outcomes. These are shared below.

### **Behaviour for Learning**

We believe that good behaviour in our school must be built on the foundation of our Ethos - Behave Well, Work Hard, Be Kind and Act Responsibly.

Students have a right to learn and teachers to teach and, without good behaviour, neither is possible. The school has a responsibility both to manage students' behaviour and to encourage students to manage their own behaviour in such a way that learning, and teaching can be effective in school, on school visits and on their way to and from school. Whilst it is possible to produce a list of school rules, students' good behaviour is secured in the longer term through modelling very high expectations, respectful relationships and clear boundaries. The management of students' behaviour in schools is a complex and challenging area for schools and school leadership and the aim is to ensure that effective learning and teaching can take place in a well-ordered environment. To this end, the school's expectations of student behaviour, of the quality of teaching, of the interactions between students and staff which facilitate positive behaviour for learning and of the supportive involvement of parents and outside agencies in promoting good behaviour are high and will remain high.

We believe in a restorative approach and want to provide students with the platform and opportunity to reflect on unacceptable behaviour in a bid to show improvements in future behaviour. We believe that students must have an opportunity to reflect on their behaviour to ensure that students understand the impact of their own unacceptable behaviour on both themselves and others. Students must also have the opportunity to reflect on how they can avoid unacceptable behaviour, and show improved behaviour in future. We believe all staff play a crucial role in facilitating this process by not only giving students time to reflect, but also by holding restorative conversations to help guide students to successful reflection. It is with this belief in mind, that the school will no longer use the traditional word 'detention' and instead students will be set periods of 'reflection' as a result of unacceptable behaviour, (ACRs – After College Reflection).

### **Appearance and Uniform**

Fundamentally we have not altered our policy on appearance and uniform, however we do have a renewed focus on this area and we want to draw your attention to the following standards in order that your child is ready for school each and every day and will benefit from always being in their lessons.

- Students should wear a shirt, tie and school jumper and, if needed, an outdoor coat – **Hooded jumpers and hooded jackets should not be worn to and from school or anywhere at school. If seen these will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day or week (for repeat offenders).**

- Students should wear school trousers or a school skirt – **Leggings or tracksuit bottoms are not permitted other than in PE lessons. If being worn the student will be asked to rectify their uniform before they can return to normal lessons.**
- Students are permitted to wear one stud earring in the lobe of each ear – **Other facial piercings (including nose piercings) are not permitted. Students will be expected to remove all piercings that contravene this rule (plasters and retainers will no longer be acceptable).**
- Students are expected to maintain their hair at a suitable length and style i.e. no shorter than Grade 2 and **no tramlines**. If hair is dyed, colours should be restricted to those found in natural hair - **Streaks of colours or extreme styles, including hair extensions, beading or other accessories are not permitted.**
- Discreet make-up may be worn by students in Year 10 and 11 only - **Nail varnish and acrylic nails should not be worn by any student.**

If a student refuses to rectify their appearance they will be removed from lessons and unable to return until their appearance is back to the expected standard.

### Sanctions

If your child chooses to misbehave in lessons, disrupt the learning of others and/or fails to engage in their own learning, the school reserves the right to impose sanctions in order to allow students to reflect and improve on their choices and ultimately their behaviour. In lessons teachers will give two formal reminders in order to help students improve their behaviour. Opportunity 1 will be a verbal reminder to the student that better behaviour choices must be made. Opportunity 2 will be a verbal and recorded (via ClassCharts) reminder to the student to improve their behaviour choices. Further poor behaviour that warrants a third intervention will mean the student must be displaced to a different classroom and attend an ACR that day or the next day. As a Parent/Carer you will be informed of the ACR via a ClassCharts notification.

**Please note** – we expect all teachers to give opportunities and reminders (verbal and non-verbal) outside the formal warnings in order to ensure your child is given every opportunity to make good behaviour choices and stay in their lessons, learning.

Teachers also have the option of asking students to attend a Restorative Conversation (usually at lunchtimes) in order to discuss the behaviour shown, any mitigating factors and to plan a way forward. Restorative Conversations will also appear on a student's ClassCharts report.

### ClassCharts

We will be sharing more information via our ClassCharts notifications with you in the New Year. Therefore, it is vital you have registered on the system so you can not only see the behaviour pie chart and incidents but also receive notifications related to positive behaviour badges and ACRs. We would encourage you to regularly check ClassCharts as it is a vital link between school and yourselves.

### Absence

From early January, Parents/Carers will be able to report an absence via the ClassCharts app. A new tab will display at the top of the app, where you will also be able to see a list of absences that you have reported. When this goes live, we will let all Parents/Carers know.

### On Report Cards

Also to be launched in early January is the On-Report cards module. There may be times where it is necessary to place a student on report so that a member of staff can monitor and record a specific aspect(s) of their behaviour as targets. The On-Report card will display the timeframe and reason why your child has been placed on report. Progress can be viewed by a Parent/Carer and

you will also have the ability to leave a comment. When this goes live, we will let all Parents/Carers know.

### **Recognising Brilliance**

It is very important to us to recognise and reward all these moments. To ensure every student can flourish and grow as individuals, over the coming weeks we will be:

- Updating our website and boosting our social media presence to share our news, events and student achievements.
- Broadening opportunities for showcasing talent through concerts, productions, events and exhibitions.
- Delivering an extended community programme to ensure Applemore remains at the heart of our local community.
- Strengthening our links with feeder schools, colleges and higher education establishments for the benefit of all involved.
- Exploring new ways to celebrate individual and collective successes.
- Celebrating our attendance heroes for those with 100% or rapidly improving attendance.
- Expanding House events to give students even more activities to gain House points, awards and prizes.

We want all our students to believe that they can be #AwesomeatApplemore. If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to seeing all the students back in January and would like to thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully



**Mr Alan Chipping**  
Headteacher



**Mr Richard Poole**  
Acting Deputy Headteacher