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9 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you about some important events and changes to academy policy taking effect from after half term.

Integrated Health Centre

Firstly, we have had the very sad news that the NHS funding for our Integrated Health Centre has come to an end and this is not a cost that we can absorb as an academy. Our budgets work on a 12 month cycle so to commit to £27,000 a year for 5 years unexpectedly is not something that we can afford. We have explored other building options using capital funding but unfortunately they are not economically viable as a capital build or replacement unit are extremely expensive.

Students have had assemblies today to explain this change and inform them that the Integrated Health Centre will be removed in the next month or so. Our Pastoral Care Officers are being relocated to our COM building where they will have a work base and a meeting room dedicated to their student support work and to facilitate their external agency sessions. Whilst there is no denying that the loss of the Integrated Health Centre is a blow, we will do our utmost to provide a consistent support service through the facilities available in the academy buildings that remain. I know that both Mrs Woollaston and Miss Sallows, our Pastoral Care Officers, have already spoke to individuals heavily affected by this change to reassure them of the continuity of support on offer.

Relationships and Behaviour Policy

We have found that since the start of the academic year that we need to make some changes to address low level disruptive behaviour following student feedback. Currently students that need to leave lessons for reason of behaviour are sent to another location in the department, a process called 'reset'. We have found that there are times that this then further impacts on the lesson receiving the student and so we are changing that process to remove this issue after half term.

Our Relationship and Behaviour Policy will be updated on our website so you can see this in fine detail.

The main changes are as follows:

Detention

All teaching staff detentions will now be held at lunchtime in Lab 1 with a member of staff. This means that students will still have 15 minutes social time at lunch to get their food, use the toilet and socialise. The reason for this change is to simplify our system and ensure there are no barriers to student attendance due to travel. Head of Year detentions will remain 1 hour after school by arrangement. Detentions will still be logged on Satchel One so that you are notified.

Reset

Following relocation (the second intervention use by staff to address behaviour) or for refusal of the confiscation of a prohibited item, the student may be sent to 'reset' for a calming down and time of reflection. A reset slip is completed and the student collected by on-call staff.

In the event of a confiscated item an on-call member of staff will attend if required to confiscate the item. Reset is for the remainder of the lesson and the next hour of learning. This may therefore include social time between those lessons. A reset in period 5 will mean attendance in period 1 the following day. Whilst in reset the student will be expected to complete online learning so that they still receive an education. As long as the student engages well with their learning and conforms to the expectations of the Reflection Room they will have no further consequence. The member of staff will contact you on the day that reset occurs to inform you of the situation and seek your support with the matter. Should there be concern that the student will persist in disrupting learning they will remain in reset until such time as those expectations are met. Should a student disrupt reset then they will be warned, if that does not help they will be spoken to outside the room before the final stage being either seen by myself or the Deputy Headteacher for a conversation involving a parent or carer.

The expectations of the reset room are as follows:

- *I will complete all of my work to the best of my ability, completing two full pages of A4 lined paper and not leave any gaps between my pieces of information*
- *I will work in silence*
- *I will follow instructions the first time*
- *I will not communicate with other students in the Reflection Room*
- *I will only use the toilet with the staff's consent*
- *I will not get out of my seat without permission*
- *I will complete the Ready for Learning Booklet to a high standard*
- *I will make sure I pass in my phone*

8PEN tutor group

For consistency for the tutor group Miss Sallows will be the tutor for 8PEN after half term. Their tutor room will be room 202. If you need to contact Miss Sallows about anything in her capacity as tutor please email her on asallows@looeca.net

Year 9 Options Evening

Our Year 9 Options Evening will be on Thursday 22 February from 6pm. This will be an opportunity for you to receive important information about this year's options process and the courses on offer ahead of our Year 9 Parents'/Carers' Evening on Wednesday 28 February when you will be able to prioritise meeting the teachers whose subjects your child is considering.

Please note that Monday 19 February is a Trust wide INSET day and so all students are expected to return on Tuesday 20 February.

We look forward to seeing them on their return.

Yours faithfully



Mr Scott Yalden
Headteacher