



19 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Culture of Excellence – CORE Expectations

We are taking the opportunity to write to you prior to the festive break and in preparation for the Spring term, to share some key information in relation to our 'Standards and Expectations for rewards and recognition, uniform and consequences'.

At Plymstock, we expect our students to 'Be Kind, Work Hard and Aim High'. We are committed to empowering our young people, through education, to have the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in life and make a positive difference to their communities. Students have the opportunity to succeed at Plymstock School, and our staff are committed to creating a learning environment that allows all members of our community to achieve their ambitions and have every opportunity to thrive.

The enhancements to our systems and approach from January are to support our continued focus on establishing a culture of **high standards and expectations of all students**, leading to a disruption free learning environment where everyone has the opportunity to learn and not have distractions that impact their learning time.

Reminder - Punctuality

A polite reminder that all students should be at school by no later than 8.35am, ready to start their day at 8.40am. Any student that arrives to school after 8.38am, will need to enter the school via the late gate (which is situated by ECO entrance to the school). Any student in Year 7 to Year 11 arriving to school after 9.10am will need to enter the school via the main school reception and ensure they sign in at the Attendance Office (situated in the student HUB).

Enhancements – January 2024

Uniform Support room

We take pride in the professional appearance and dress of our students, and it is a school requirement that all our students wear the full school uniform correctly at all times, as per our dress code. Parents/carers and student cooperation is essential if we are to maintain this high standard. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child is sent to and arrives to school correctly dressed.

We have recognised that some students are arriving to school without a blazer, tie or are wearing leggings or tracksuit bottoms. As of January, any student arriving to school without the correct items; blazer, tie, skirt or trousers will be given support via our uniform support room which will provide the correct item of clothing for the day or longer if required. This is to ensure we support our students to meet the uniform expectations and the student will be expected to wear the item provided. The uniform has been newly purchased by the school to support this initiative.

Rewards and recognition

Students will be able to exchange their positive points for tangible rewards in school. We are keen to acknowledge and recognise our students' achievements and we are proud of our students for their positive behaviours and conduct since the start of September - over 190000 positive points having been accrued from Year 7-13. This is a fantastic achievement! More information will be shared with our students on our return in January explaining how and what they can exchange their points for.

Reset and Internal Reflection Room

We currently operate a Reset Room which is to address low level disruption in lessons. It is an opportunity for students to reflect and 'Reset' to enable them to return to their lessons at a later point to continue their learning.

During this half term we have seen an increase in the number of incidents where a minority of students have not followed staff instructions during social times. Further to this, there are a minority of students who are not conducting themselves appropriately whilst using the toilet facilities, including entering toilet cubicles with another student/s. This is a safeguarding concern. From January 2024 these behaviours will lead to students being sent to Reset.

For more significant behaviours students are referred to the Internal Reflection Room. This will be 5 periods and both breaks. Behaviours linked to this room include truancy, repeatedly not following staff instructions, refusal to attend Reset and verbal abuse.

To remove the need for students to transition to the Galley and back whilst in Reset, students will be given the opportunity to order their food which will be delivered to the Reset or Internal Reflection room.

We hope the above information provides clarity about our enhancements for January 2024. This information will be shared with staff and students before we break up and will be revisited on their return.

We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to warmly welcoming our students back on **Wednesday 3rd January 2024**.

Yours faithfully,



Miss Hannah Martin
Deputy Headteacher
Excellence in Culture



Mrs Nichola Offer
Deputy Headteacher
Excellence in Curriculum

