



BPA/AT

8th April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you to outline some of our expectations in relation to students' uniform, equipment, and behaviour, and also to offer a reminder as to our policies and approaches to supporting students with these issues.

Following feedback from a whole range of stakeholders (students, parents, and staff) we have concerns around a number of students attending school without proper equipment ready for a day of learning, and also around a small minority of students whose attendance at lessons is an issue both for them and the wider school environment.

As you will be aware, the two priorities in any school are around safeguarding and education: ensuring young people are safe, and are being supported with their learning. This letter aims to remind you of what we expect of our young people in relation to these areas, and how we are supporting them and responding to situations where this becomes a challenge for them.

Equipment

When we return from the Easter break all students will be issued with a pencil case containing 2 pens, a pencil, a rubber, and a ruler ('the Tavi 5'). From then on, we expect that all students will come to school equipped with at least these items (and a bag to carry them in) so that they are prepared for their day at school.

Students who are regularly without their provided (or their own) equipment will be followed up with via tutor and Head of Year by communication to parents, and by using our behaviour policy (in this case, recess detentions).

Our focus on equipment, and ensuring all students have the key items with them, is due to our desire to ensure teachers and students can maximise their teaching and learning time in lessons.

Attendance at lessons

We expect all students to attend all lessons. If there are specific reasons why a young person feels they are unable to attend a certain lesson, these must be raised through the appropriate channels (to tutor, Head of Year, or Head of Faculty); not by refusing to attend that lesson. Students refusing to attend lessons and being elsewhere on site is a safeguarding concern, as well as a disruption for other students' learning.

In this instance, students will be supported to attend lessons, but truancy and refusal to follow support will be sanctioned with an after-school detention (run on Tuesdays and Thursdays in line with late buses).

Thank you for taking the time to read this outline and reminder, and for supporting us with our steps and strategies to safeguard our young people, and ensure we can help them maximise their education.

Please do get in touch with the relevant member of staff if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Palmer'.

Barry Palmer
Vice Principal