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Marine Academy Plymouth • Trevithick Road • St Budeaux • Plymouth • PL5 2AF
t: 01752 213939 • www.marineacademy.org.uk

5th September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may already be aware that we have been looking at fostering behaviour for learning in our students to provide the most conducive environment for children to succeed during their time with us. In a recent academy survey, low level disruptive behaviour by classmates was identified as one of the main barriers to learning and enjoying lessons. Although this does not happen very often, it is an area which needs continued attention. Certainly, for both students and parents/carers, knowing that school is a safe, happy place where everyone can feel relaxed and able to learn, is fundamental. We already pride ourselves on effective strategies to manage behaviour but wish to improve this further to create a genuine culture of positivity and mutual respect across the school. Therefore, we are planning to introduce a new Ready to Learn approach at Marine Academy from the 11th September. Essentially, the system will aim:

- to provide **clarity for staff and students** about acceptable behaviour and the consequences of misbehaviour;
- to encourage students to **take responsibility** for their own actions;
- to **eliminate disruptive behaviour**, so that there is a culture of achievement, ambition and learning everywhere in the school, and no learning time is wasted;
- to enable teachers to **deliver engaging and creative lessons, experiment and take risks**, without concern for behavioural interruptions as barriers;
- To involve and **collaborate with parents/carers to support with their child's attitude to learning**.

The Ready to Learn approach will cover all aspects of school life, both within and outside of the classroom. It involves sanctions being given through a central school system, which will be carefully monitored by the Pastoral Team and the Academy Leadership Team, both to identify early any students who may need support with their behaviour, and to ensure sanctions are applied fairly and consistently across the school. This will involve all students operating under a one-warning system and being given a 24 hour period in isolation, including a same day 1 hour detention after school, should they fail to correct their disruptive behaviour following the warning being issued.

We obviously appreciate that some students have additional needs which make it more difficult for them to regulate some aspects of their behaviour. These children need our complete support. The strategy will, therefore, include a tariff system personalised for individual students and a full 3-step intervention and support programme if the student has multiple incidents of poor behaviour resulting in time in isolation.

In parallel, and of equal importance, we are revisiting our rewards system to create a positive 'can do' attitude in all aspects of school life, and to reward our students for their fantastic work, attitude and effort.



Assemblies will be held this week to inform students of what the Ready to Learn approach will mean for them. While we constantly review this new approach, we will formally evaluate the impact of Ready to Learn by the October half term.

From a parents' perspective, we will be holding a special information evening from **5.30pm to 6.30pm** on Wednesday **6th September 2017** at Marine Academy. There will be a short presentation outlining the key elements of the Ready to Learn approach, followed by an opportunity for you to ask questions. I and the rest of the Academy Leadership Team will also be on hand throughout the event if you would like to discuss your child's individual circumstances with one of us.

Fundamentally, we would like to continue to keep lines of communication open between home and school to ensure that we provide the very best support to your children as well as improving standards at the Academy.

If you have any questions at all in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N Ward', written in a cursive style.

Nick Ward
Principal