

19 February 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I am writing to you to highlight some adjustments that are being made to the corrections system in the academy.

### **Adjustments to the corrections process**

Based on feedback from students and parents about the length of the corrections issued, we have decided to shorten the length of corrections. It was felt that while the highest of expectations relating to our learning habits of Uniform, Equipment, Punctuality, Homework and Deadlines, Positive Response and On Task are a very positive thing and set students up well for adult life, the full 90 minutes at the end of the school day had a negative impact on family life with students worrying about travelling home late on foot or on public transport. As a result, we will shorten each correction to 20 minutes which means that the maximum time a student spends in correction at the end of the school day will be 60 minutes.

This means that from Monday 26 February, Corrections will finish at the following times:

- Monday to Thursday: 4.05pm
- Friday: 3:15pm

We hope this change will be a continued reflection of our sincere desire to work in partnership with the parents and carers of our students.

### **Home School Alignment & Communication**

- We would like to remind parents and carers that all students are expected to attend corrections. Corrections are a necessary and important process that support our school culture and all students are expected to attend. We ask parents and carers to carefully consider organising and paying for external activities that take place before the times stated above or at times that do not allow for travel after the times stated above. Whilst we passionately encourage all our students to participate in organised extra-curricular pursuits, such activities are not seen as a legitimate reason for a child to miss their correction. They should be considered motivation for a student to avoid getting a correction. Therefore, we do not consider the school to have inconvenienced the family for implementing an established policy. Rather, we feel the child must take responsibility for making a choice with a predictable outcome that has inconvenienced their family. We know that our families support us by having these conversations at home.
- Furthermore, we would like to remind parents and carers that all communication regarding their child's performance in school is available via the MCAS app, which allows families to track their child's attendance, Appreciations and Corrections in real time. Thus, we can provide families with as much notice as possible, allowing them time to make any adjustments to arrangements. If parents are having any issues accessing the app, please contact Mr Lamb via the following email: [clamb@dixonsba.com](mailto:clamb@dixonsba.com) .

### **Supporting Students to Meet Expectations**

- Our expectations are well advertised, and we will continue to support all students to avoid any corrections for not meeting the learning habits. The Mountain Rescue 'Boot Room' is open every day from 8am where uniform and equipment are readily available for students who may be missing items. Homework Club will continue to run daily to support all students in meeting their homework deadlines. Furthermore, we allow students to complete homework in their correction to help them meet this expectation the following day.

Positive Response is worth clarifying as it is the requirement to speak to all staff and students with kindness and respect. This includes the times when students might feel they have been given a consequence unfairly. It is important to note that staff agree that a student should be allowed to speak to them to discuss a consequence. This is on the understanding the student follows three simple rules; students must use the Right Words, in the Right Tone, at the Right Time. Therefore, students are required to be courteous and polite in the moment, knowing they will be given the opportunity to discuss the consequence at a time of convenience for both parties. This is usually during break, lunch or after school.

On Task simply requires students to follow the instructions they are given with focus during school routines, transitions, and lessons. To encourage this, staff front load the instructions for each task with clear expectations and positively narrate when students are getting it right. Again, we know that our families understand the importance of listening well, working hard and respect for all learners.

If you have any questions or would like any further information, please contact [clamb@dixonsat.com](mailto:clamb@dixonsat.com) or [nhughes@dixonsat.com](mailto:nhughes@dixonsat.com) who will be happy to help.

Yours faithfully

Rachael Fidler

Principal

