

20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

As we approach the end of Term 1, I wanted to update you on the latest developments at The Portsmouth Academy regarding behaviour and share some positive news regarding our efforts to uphold a safe and supportive learning environment for everyone.

We appreciate and celebrate the majority of students who continue to behave well. We are also pleased to share that thanks to the work of our fantastic team of staff and your continued support, we are starting to see significant progress in terms of student engagement and commitment to 'The TPA Way.'

It's encouraging to see students actively participating in and embracing the values that underpin our school community: *Aspire, Achieve, Respect*. Building a sense of community and fostering a culture of respect are critical elements in establishing a clear path of improvement for our school.

However, there unfortunately remains some students who are not demonstrating respect for their peers or members of staff. As written to you previously, we absolutely will not tolerate students consistently removing themselves from lessons, causing disruption to learning, and not following the instructions of senior staff. I, alongside my colleagues, will continue to expect high standards of conduct in and around school and if our behaviour policy is not being followed, we will continue to sanction students as appropriate.

As an Academy, we are committed to equipping our young people with the knowledge and skills to lead happy and successful lives and contribute positively to society. That all begins with the respect they show themselves, their peers and their teachers. Rest assured, we are steadfast in our dedication to improving behaviour and providing a positive learning and working environment for all.

As part of this mission, I wanted to update you about a few initiatives that will be in place after the half term. Safety, security and wellbeing have always been paramount for us, and this will continue to be our top priority for students and staff at the Academy.

- We are taking steps to increase our staffing capacity to enhance our pastoral care system.
- As mentioned, we are launching our new behaviour policy today to ensure the highest standards of conduct are met. You can find the policy [here](#) and on the Academy website.
- Our pastoral, SEND, and inclusion teams will continue to meet daily to review behaviour that falls short of our standards.
- We are pleased to have now received planning permission to make our school fence higher. As this will take a few weeks to install, we are welcoming an external security team, Vespasian Security, to monitor the perimeter, corridors and CCTV to ensure all pupils, families and staff

can safely enjoy a calm and respectful school environment. The organisation has recently completed a similar school project within the city.

- I want to make you aware that the team will be in professional dress and wear body-worn cameras. Please rest assured, this is a precautionary measure to help our community feel as comfortable as possible and the Trust's privacy policy will be followed at all times.

Thank you for your continued support, it is truly invaluable. It is by working together that we will ensure our students have the skills and conduct to thrive when they leave us and ensure our school environment is one where everyone can reach their potential.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via our office email, [office@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk).

Yours faithfully,



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