

Friday 22nd June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

City Standards

I am writing to inform you of some changes we have been making to our academy behaviour policy to support our students with their learning. The majority of our students behave very well every lesson, all day and we want to reward them for this. I have told students that we will be asking what they would like as rewards. The very quick answer is “trips” but we also need some things that are quick and immediate so that students feel the benefit of behaving in a way that contributes positively to their learning. I look forward to receiving their feedback.

Having spent some time asking the students what they don’t like about our current system the feedback is that students do not like our buddying system. This is where a student is sent to another class because they are disrupting the learning of others or have behaved in a way that doesn’t reflect our values of Pride, Grit and Team Spirit. Students have told us that when another student is buddied into their class, it disrupts that classes learning as well as the original class. We are therefore we are no longer going to “buddy” students to another class.

Instead, students will be sent straight to the Link and will be there during school hours until the same time the following day, and will also do a 30 minute detention that night after school. We will text you to let you know if that is happening for your child so it is therefore even more important that we have a reliable number that we can contact you on.

I have been doing assemblies with each year group to make it very clear what sort of behaviours we will reward, and what will end up with a yellow card warning, and then a red card which will mean that a student will end up in the Link. The table below summarises the consequences of different types of behaviour:

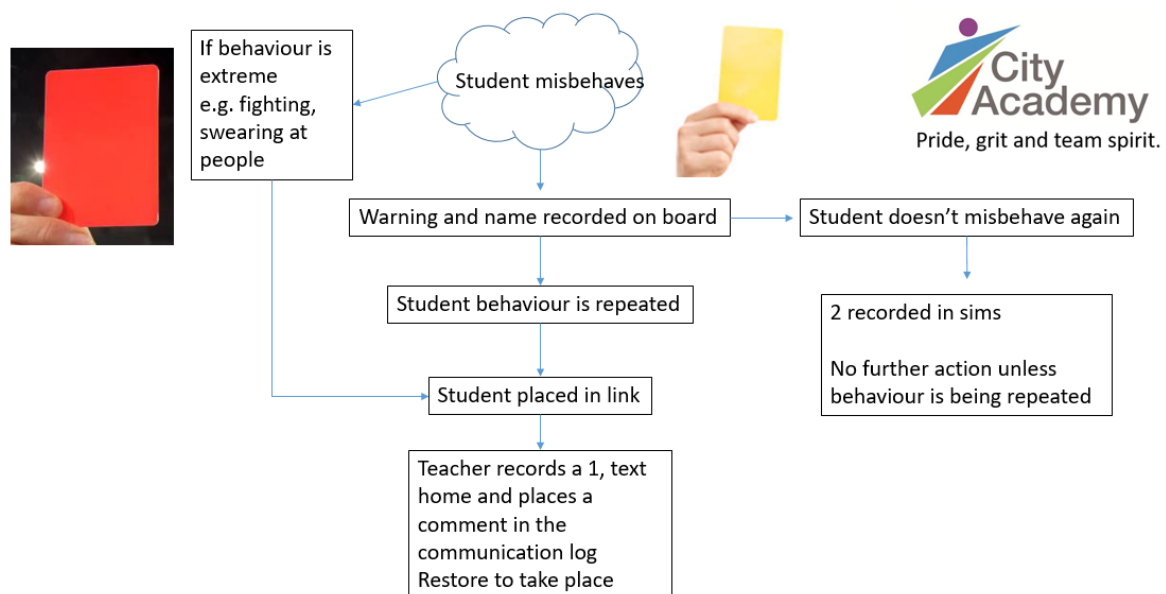
Yellow card	Red card sent to the Link	Level 3 duty call and then possible exclusion
Talking when you shouldn’t	Repeat of level 1 behaviour	Unprovoked attack on another
Not enough work	A second level 1 warning	Use of an object in a fight
Running inside	Fighting	Possession of banned or illegal substances, images
Swearing/rudeness	Vandalism	Criminal damage

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Stopping others from working	Internal truancy from lessons and LF	External truancy
Refusing to follow instructions from an adult	Verbal threats to others	Verbal abuse of others including, swearing at others (adults and students), racist, homophobic and gender based insults.
Late to lesson		
“Play” fighting		
Littering		
Eating in class		

The following diagram shows what happens in the classroom:



We are introducing the system gradually to allow students to get used to the new processes. This week, students will only have gone to the Link for the lesson that they got the red card in. From next week, commencing 25th June the length of time will increase to the end of the next social time. For example if a student gets sent to the Link lesson 1, they will be in the Link until the end of break-time.

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From the 2nd July it will be for a whole school day plus the 30 minutes after school. During that time teachers will come and have a restorative conversation with the student to help them understand why they have ended up in the Link.

We are also increasing the number of items that we will confiscate in light of recent legislation and guidance around healthy eating. We will now confiscate the following items:

- Mobile phones, headphones and other electrical items if used during the school day
- Non uniform items that are being worn in the building
- Caffeine drinks such as Red Bull
- Large cartons of juice
- Very large packets of crisps, sweets or multi-packs of chocolate bars.

The first two items on the list are not new but I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of the policy. Can I also remind you that we are not responsible for loss or damage of any personal items whilst they are on the premises. The food and drink items are because of the increasing evidence of the damage they do to children in the long term, but also the short term effects they have on children's behaviour.

We are very grateful for your support in ensuring we have the highest standards of behaviour in the Academy. If you have any questions at all please don't hesitate to contact me, or your child's Head of Year.

Best wishes



Jon Angell, Principal

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