



Moorside High School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the half term holiday, I wanted to take the opportunity to write to you personally, to update you on the positive steps we have taken as a school to develop a strong culture, focussed on positive praise. Since April this year, we have worked hard to embed “The Moorside Way.” This is a simple and concise set of ten standards that we expect all students to be aware of and meet on a daily basis. These expectations link closely to the schools C.A.R.E values of Consideration, Aspiration, Resilience and Equality. Students have really taken these standards onboard and it is great to see them being rewarded and recognised throughout the day for demonstrating our core values.

In order to ensure that we keep ‘The Moorside Way’ at the core of all we do, you will notice we now have weekly silent reminders, linked to these standards. These are shared with students each week and parent/carers via the Parent Update, which is posted on a Friday at 15:00. As we move into the second half term, with dark nights, and colder weather, we know that getting up for school gets more difficult. To support students our key focus next week and when we return after half term, will be around encouraging students to arrive to school on time, but more importantly, not to be lethargic about moving between lessons and ensure they walk with purpose and enthusiasm to arrive on time. Whilst this is not an issue for the vast majority of students, we do have some students who regularly arrive late to lesson and are slow to move around the building. As you can imagine, this creates the following issues in school:

- Students who arrive late are missing out on critical curriculum time and learning.
- Students who arrive late, can disrupt the learning of students who arrived on time – This is simply not fair.
- Students arriving late to lesson not only disrupt their lesson, but also the lessons around them, particularly those lessons in outside classrooms.
- Students choosing to arrive late can be a disruptive element on the corridors and around the school site.
- We have a moral obligation to educate students around the importance of punctuality and the implications being late may have in a professional setting once they leave school.

All students are set to have assemblies this week on the importance of punctuality and the impact it can have on their learning. Following the reminders this week, from Monday 16th October, all students will be expected to be in school and lessons on time. Failure to arrive to lesson on time will result in an afterschool detention the same day. Parents with ClassCharts will get a late to lesson notification if their child is late and can therefore expect them to remain in school until 15:25 to complete their consequence. We know that lots of students do follow ‘The Moorside Way’ and work hard in school to do the right thing. Students who are on time for all lesson and school next week, will be entered into our end of term draw, to be rewarded for their commitment to following ‘The Moorside Way.’ This will also continue after half term.

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Having a hard reset on standards like this is proven in schools to achieve the quickest and most effective outcomes. We expect the assembly reminder this week, will be a sufficient reminder for the majority of students to reflect and make the necessary changes required to arrive to all lessons on time. Should a student fail to attend the consequence of the late detention, the consequence will be upscaled.

As always, if there is a valid reason for being late, your child's Head of Year will monitor this and remove them from the detention list.

In September, we launched ClassCharts to all stakeholders as a platform for staff, students, and parents/carers to track and monitor achievement, behaviour, homework, and attendance. ClassCharts provides parents/carers with near real time information on their child, lesson by lesson across the school day. Following the success of the trial and feedback we have received since September, this will be the only platform that Moorside High School will be using moving forward, for all information relating to your child's performance in school.

We know that schools work best when parents/carers work with us, so to support this, we would ask that you download the app so we can work together to ensure all students are following 'The Moorside Way' receiving positive praise and arriving to school and lessons on time.

If you have not yet downloaded and logged onto ClassCharts you can request a unique parent access code by emailing MHSclasscharts@consilium-at.com

Thank you in advance for your support in embedding the standard 'At Moorside High School we arrive to school and lessons on time.' As I mentioned earlier, I am confident that the vast majority of students will continue to have a positive approach to their lessons and arrive to them on time and be ready to learn.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Thompson
Deputy Headteacher

TEAM MOORSIDE - THE MOORSIDE WAY

Complete all homework and hand in on time	Play your part in the positive learning environment	Wear correct uniform	Planner, equipment, knowledge organiser out on desks	Be respectful to everyone	Use technology appropriately	Look after school property and keep the school tidy	Move around the corridors sensibly	Listen and follow instructions first time	Arrive on time to school and lessons

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