

21 May 2021

Dear Year 9 Parent/Carer,

**'First Impressions Card' pilot, Summer 2**

Once again, thank you for your support during this academic year. It is, without doubt, owing to your efforts that your child has successfully managed to navigate the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic which have been imposed upon us all.

Moving forward, we wish to support your children in further developing their ASPIRE attributes so they are adequately prepared for the academic and social challenges that the 2021-2022 school year will require them to overcome. This includes being **fully equipped, punctual, polite, and cooperative** so that we can focus our energies on students' learning in a safe and orderly environment.

To support our current behaviour policy, we will be introducing our 'First Impressions Card' in September. The introduction of this will hold our students accountable for 'sweating the small stuff'; being **fully equipped, punctual, polite, and cooperative**. We want to guarantee that every child can reach their full potential without being distracted from their learning.

We intend to pilot the First Impressions Card with our Year 9 students as they have displayed tremendous levels of resilience and maturity over this academic year. They have also had the experience of being students at the Academy prior to the impact of the pandemic; as GCSE students they know that they must be focused on their studies.

The pilot will involve each student being issued with the card on the 8 June. Students who are fully equipped, wearing uniform correctly, punctual, polite, and cooperative will receive 50 House Points from their tutor at the end of each week. Conversely, students who do not comply with these expectations will receive a warning 'strike' on their card. If a student receives five strikes, they will be expected to complete five lessons in the Isolation Room with loss of social time. A new card will then be issued.

Mrs Twigg will be delivering an assembly to our Year 9 students on Monday 24 May to explain the First Impressions Card and the role they will play in developing the system for a whole-Academy roll-out in September. To ensure you are fully informed Mrs Twigg and I will host an information session on Tuesday 25 May from 5pm – 6pm on Microsoft Teams. The link can be found here: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_YzAyMWJkMjUtMjIhMy00MzViLWlyNjQtZDkzN2ZhMDIzZDji%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%225ea99fbb-62bb-4035-a0e6-16d442b9d859%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2293f0a007-d842-4e30-9f84-e1df74996393%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzAyMWJkMjUtMjIhMy00MzViLWlyNjQtZDkzN2ZhMDIzZDji%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%225ea99fbb-62bb-4035-a0e6-16d442b9d859%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2293f0a007-d842-4e30-9f84-e1df74996393%22%7d)

Thank you for your attention and in anticipation of your support.

**Mrs K Franklin**  
**Director of Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare**

Principal: Mr Mark Avoth

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