

Dear Parents and Carers,

Subject: Student Conduct and Safety in the Local Community

I am writing regarding an important matter concerning the conduct of some of our students when travelling to and from school, particularly along the pedestrian and cycle paths in the surrounding area. We have addressed this matter with all students and will provide further reminders following the Christmas break.

The vast majority of our students are courteous, well-mannered, and a credit to their families and The Bourne Academy. However, we have received reports of a small number of students behaving in ways that are unsafe, discourteous, or inappropriate, including:

- 1. Riding bikes or scooters at speed, often without lights or helmets during darker evenings.
- 2. Failing to share pedestrian and cycle paths responsibly, sometimes causing risk to others, including young children and vulnerable pedestrians.
- 3. Using inappropriate language or being distracted by mobile devices while travelling.
- 4. Not wearing uniforms appropriately when outside school (while recognising that we can only monitor behaviour while students are in our care).

Whilst the Academy takes student safety and behaviour very seriously, it is important to recognise that parents and carers also play a key role in supporting and reinforcing these expectations outside of school.

We respectfully ask for your support in:

- 1. Reminding your child of the importance of travelling safely and considerately, particularly on shared paths.
- 2. Ensuring that bikes and scooters are equipped with lights and that helmets are worn at all times
- 3. Encouraging polite and respectful behaviour in the community.
- 4. Supporting the school's uniform policy, including appropriate dress when outside of school.

We would also like to remind parents and carers **not to smoke/vape or linger around the school entrances/car park**, to help maintain a safe, healthy, and welcoming environment for all students and the local community.

The Academy has staff monitoring certain areas after school and CCTV in key locations, and we will take action in line with our policies if unsafe or inappropriate behaviour is observed. In cases of behaviour that "brings the Academy into disrepute," we may restrict access to



secure bike or scooter storage on Academy grounds. However, our ability to manage behaviour is limited when students are off-site, so collaboration with families is essential.

We are proud of the vast majority of our students and their positive contribution to our community. By working together, we can ensure that all students are safe, respectful, and serve as good role models for younger children in the area.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,
The Bourne Academy