

The Harefield Academy

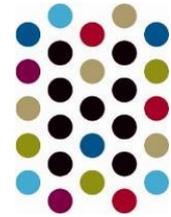
Achievement through Active Learning

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September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to thank you for the positive response to our recent Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 Information Evenings; it was useful to inform you of all of our recent pastoral support system developments.

Whilst the vast majority of our students continue to impress us with their positive attitudes to learning, we have recently been alerted to a very small number of students letting The Academy down with incidents of poor behaviour outside of the school premises. We would like to reiterate that we have high expectations of our students' conduct in the community, whether they are travelling to and from school, wearing school uniform or identifiable as Academy students. We are very proud that the significant majority of our students continue to model exemplary behaviour and manners at all times and this is to be commended. However, we have recently had to sanction a small number of students where we have received information from the public regarding inappropriate or anti-social behaviour, or language, in public places. Such incidents have been taken very seriously since they do not reflect the values we demand of our students nor does this behaviour convey the high standards we expect on a daily basis. Students have been reminded through assemblies that if they are found to be bringing The Academy into disrepute they will be sanctioned in line with our Ladder of Consequence. This is in line with the Department for Education guidance on disciplining students for inappropriate conduct outside of the school premises. As always we appreciate the support of Parents/Carers in reinforcing this message and encouraging excellent behaviour when travelling to and from school.

Students have also been informed that if they are involved in the recording or distribution of recorded footage that brings The Academy into disrepute this will constitute a very serious offence and that they will be sanctioned accordingly. If it comes to staff attention that a student's phone contains video footage of an inappropriate nature, their phone will be confiscated and passed to our Safer Schools Officer PC Don Cummings in the first instance. This is in line with our joint Schools/Police protocols.

Parents/Carers are reminded that monitoring their child's internet access is something that must be done on a regular basis to ensure that their children are safe. We advise all Parents/Carers to visit the CEOP website for further guidance.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

F O'Sullivan
Deputy Headteacher