

6th July 2018

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HEADTEACHER:
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Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you of some changes that will be happening from September 2018.

Amendments to the Behaviour for Learning Policy

We are fortunate that the overwhelming majority of our students are polite and well behaved. Parents/carers and visitors compliment the school for our calm, orderly and friendly atmosphere and high standards of behaviour. We thank parents/carers for their support as it is the strong partnership and no mixed messages about high standards that allow us to operate the way that we do.

We are not, however, complacent in our drive for high standards of behaviour and the eradication of low level disruption in classrooms and around school that impacts on the learning of all. With this in mind we will be amending our behaviour system from Monday 4 September 2018 and will be introducing a 'consequences system' which is used in many other schools. The key word in the consequence system is 'choice'. Students choose their behaviour and therefore choose to be rewarded or choose to be disciplined. Students will have 3 warnings in lessons before they 'choose' a consequence.

Each consequence has a number:

- C1 - Warning
- C2 - Second warning
- C3 - Third and final warning
- C4 - Removed from lesson to work in another classroom. 30 minutes after school detention
- C5 - Removed a second time and isolated in the isolation room for 1 day

From Monday 3rd September 2018 the C4 after school detention will be 30 minutes (3:05pm - 3:35pm) and if students do not attend the C4 detention they effectively 'choose' to extend the length of the detention by a further 30 minutes and this will be completed on a Friday. Fortunately, detentions are not needed for the overwhelming majority of our students as they are a deterrent to help students make the right choice about their behaviour. However, some students do make mistakes and therefore 'choose' the consequence.

In addition, we will also be focusing on the general conduct of students around school. Students falling below expectation will be issued with Standards Signatures in their planner and gaining a number of these signatures will lead to a Standards detention, similar to a C4 after school detention.

Students will be rewarded in school with positive Class Chart points for meeting expected standards of behaviour and conduct. Students who choose to do well will receive certificates and will take part in reward events; but most of all the students who behave well will no doubt be rewarded with excellent

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exam results and a positive school record and reference that they will use in applications for employment and further education.

Parents/carers are key to any behaviour system in school. We ask that parents/carers continue to reward and praise their child when good things happen at school and discipline if their child chooses to be badly behaved. The school - parent/carer partnership and a consistent message from both is critical to ensure students achieve their very best.

Parents/carers will be notified about a detention by regularly checking the detention record in the school planner. The record will give details of the time and date. Parents/carers and students should be aware that if a student fails to attend the detention (or forgets) - then the student 'chooses' to extend the detention by 30 minutes and attends the Friday detention.

Group Tutor Changes 2018 - 2019

At Crofton Academy we strongly believe that the role of the tutor is very significant in the lives of our students and their parents/carers. However, we also acknowledge that having specialist tutors at dedicated times in a student's school career is beneficial and can make a great impact. With that in mind from September 2018 we will be moving a small number of tutors to be based solely with our Year 7 and 8 students and a small number of tutors to be based solely with our Year 9, 10 and 11 students. This will create a Year 7 and 8 team of tutors and Year Group Managers (Key Stage 3) and a Year 9, 10 and 11 team of tutors and Year Group Managers (Key Stage 4).

New Timetables

This week students will receive their new timetable which will start on Monday 9th July. This is a very exciting time for students, particularly students in current Year 8 and Year 9 who will be starting their examination courses. Because of the courses that students have chosen it may mean that your child will change from one side of the year group to the other. This is also a time when we realign the sets for English, Maths and Science. Your child has had several assessments over the academic year and we use this information to ensure your child is in an appropriate set for the level of progress. Therefore, your child may move to a set above or below the one they are currently in to ensure they are working at the right level.

One of the reasons we change the timetable before we break up for the summer holidays is to allow students to check they have made the right option choices for Key Stage 4. Students can, where possible, change a choice over the next 2 weeks. However, this will depend on class numbers and appropriateness of the course for your child. Once we get to September students will not be able to change their course because they need to study each course for a set number of hours.

'Values' at Crofton Academy

At school we work hard to make sure that all pupils understand how to get the best out of their time with us. It's crucial that pupils are safe, respected, responsible and ready to learn. It's also vital that alongside working with pupils for exam success, that we also prepare them for their futures. Indeed we want to support pupils to be able to contribute positively to society and to find success and happiness in the choices that they make. Our 'Values' work underpins this. It's about attitudes and behaviours.

From September pupils will have a Values lesson. In this lesson pupils will follow a five year programme that incorporates: traditional PSHE; Careers and progression guidance; Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education and Fundamental British Values work. It will also embed with students the Crofton Core Values of: communication, collaboration, co-operation, resilience, respect and responsibility. This will support pupils to learn how to appropriately debate and guide them to be able to make their own informed decisions. Indeed it will support pupils in their development, teaching them

how to build strong, positive relationships and providing opportunities and experiences to learn about our world.

Thank you for your continued support as we endeavour to make Crofton Academy the very best.

Together we will achieve.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Walker'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mr P Walker
Headteacher