



5 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Support for Academy Sanctions

I hope you had a good Christmas and New Year.

As you know, we are extremely proud of our pastoral support team and invest in them by allowing more contact time for your children to receive support and guidance during the Academy day. However, last term saw an increased level of parents/carers insisting on 'immediate' access to Academy staff. The higher call and email volumes of some parents/carers were demanding a disproportionate amount of time on matters which are simply non-negotiable. These include detentions and uniform concerns. Our policies and procedures are clear, and I have spoken to all students this week about the importance of our Academy routines and behaviour systems and urged them to focus on the variety of rewards we have available to them.

One of our greatest strengths is our ability to provide a warm but strict environment. We value our ASPIRE competencies greatly and believe that every child can be the best versions of themselves here. One of the reasons parents/carers want to send their children to The Bourne Academy (we have had 671 applicants for 180 places for September 2024) is because of our approach to forming good routines & habits and to ensuring that poor behaviour is challenged appropriately. Teaching & Learning is most effective when your children's lessons are disruption-free, every day.

Therefore, we urge parents/carers not to request changes to sanctions. The order and structure that we put in place for children is clearly working and allows children to achieve academically and pastorally, hence our positive position within the local community of schools. As you know, legally, detention is a school decision and does not require parental/carers consent. Furthermore, "next day consequences" have to be retained for the system to work effectively, so please do not ask for dates to be changed.

Thank you, as ever, for your ongoing support.

Kind regards

**Mr M Avoth,
Principal**

Principal: Mr M Avoth

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