

JSCHS Standards

Information for Students

We have very clear expectations around uniform, attendance, punctuality and behaviour and it is worth noting that the vast majority of our students meet these expectations every day. In meeting these standards students are demonstrating a range of attributes including a pride in their community, engagement in learning and a desire to make progress and be successful. Unfortunately, a small number of students sometimes do not get things quite right and this document provides some reminders and updates on what we expect and how we will support students to meet these standards.

Uniform & Jewellery

Our uniform standards can be found on our website and it is brilliant to hear the positive reaction from parents and our community about the changes we made in September. A few issues have crept in so here are some reminders:

- Footwear should be completely black with no visible logos. We sent a letter to some parents earlier this year regarding mesh top trainers, which are not acceptable, and these will need to be replaced at Christmas. Please do contact your child's Head of Year if this presents a problem.
- Trousers should not be skin tight and should be below the ankle.
- Nose studs, including clear studs, are not allowed. Please do not allow your child to pierce their nose as they will be asked to remove the stud in school.
- With regards to other jewellery, students may wear a watch, one ring and one pair of simple earrings. Again they will be asked to remove anything over and above these items.

Attendance and Punctuality

There is a clear and proven link between attendance and achievement so we are looking at ways to support you in getting your child into school when they would prefer to stay in bed. The following points do not replace current systems, but are additional measures to incentivise attendance and punctuality:

- Text home when your child is late into school. Students should be in their form room by 8.40am so we recommend they are on site by 8.35am to avoid a late mark.
- **Students with attendance between 90%-95% attendance in the previous year.** At present you are required to inform the school if your child is absent and if you are unable to do this a text will be sent to request a reason for the absence. We are updating this system so that the Head of Year will now contact you following the second occasion your child is absent from school to support you in keeping absences to an absolute minimum.
- **Year 10 students only.** A student who achieves full attendance, receives no lates (this is for every lesson not just morning and afternoon registration) and picks up no sanctions during a

Telephone · 0191 296 1432

Preston Road · North Shields · Tyne and Wear · NE29 9PU

jschs.office@ntl.org.uk · www.johnspence.org.uk

single week will be allowed off the school site for lunch one day the following week. Permission from parents will be needed and a text will be sent home requesting this in the next few days.

- **Year 7 – 9 students.** Students who have full attendance and have no lates or sanctions will receive a pass to get to the front of their year group queue on a Friday for lunch.

Behaviour

We focus on the positive behaviours of the majority of our students for the majority of our time and the rewards system means that we are frequently celebrating what students are getting right. There are occasions where things go wrong and we have a range of sanctions to address these issues.

Our red card system is where a senior member of staff is called to a class where a student is stopping others learning at which point the student will either be removed to standby or reintegrated into the lesson. Those students removed to standby receive an immediate phone call home from the senior member of staff and a follow up letter for your records. An update to the red card system is:

- Parents of students who are reintegrated into a lesson will receive a text informing them of the reason why red card was called. The text will also invite the parent to contact the class teacher to find out more details and to discuss the issue further. There will be many occasions where the class teacher would make contact with the parent in the first instance.

These reminders and updates are in response to a few questions raised by students, parents and staff and are by no means a reaction to an increase in concerns around behaviour, uniform and attendance; the vast majority of our students arrive in school on time every day and do their best.

Thank you for your support in helping your child to meet these expectations and please do not hesitate to contact the school if you would like to discuss anything further.

Best wishes,



Jonathan Heath
Headteacher