



WALTON HIGH

Leading Learning

Walnut Tree Campus: Fyfield Barrow Milton Keynes MK7 7WH

Brooklands Campus: Fen Street Milton Keynes MK10 7HE

Tel: 01908 677954

www.waltonhigh.org.uk



Principal – Brooklands Andrew Bennett
Principal – Walnut Tree Sharon Alexander

Chair of Governors Ayser Asif
Business Manager Sukh Singh

Monday 5 February 2024

Dear Parent

Walton High is always looking for ways we can support students in getting the most out of the education they receive. We firmly believe that all students have the right to access their learning without that learning being disrupted by others. As a school we have been looking at the changes we can make to help reinforce this message and to help promote good behaviour for learning. Due to this we are making the following adjustments starting in February 2024.

Praise Days

We are very fortunate to have so many great students at Walton High who consistently go above and beyond in their learning. We want to make sure that we are recognising these students and that these students are given the opportunity to celebrate their success with the wider school. We will therefore be introducing 'Praise Days' which will take place every Friday on a week A after school. Students will be nominated by their teachers, either through a note in their books or a conversation in the lesson. The students who have been nominated will then be invited to Student Services at the end of the day where their work will be displayed for students and teachers to come and see. The very best of this work will then be selected by the Senior Team to form the new 'Wow Wall'. All students will receive a Praise Postcard so they can also celebrate their success with you at home. There are many ways a student can find themselves nominated for a 'Praise Day' but we are particularly looking for students who go above and beyond, who push themselves in lessons and who make excellent progress no matter their starting point. This progress is very much a personal thing and is not a comparison to other students but is rather a way of acknowledging any student who has made outstanding progress or produced excellent work.

Centralised detentions

'Everyone at Walton High has the right to attend classes, take part in activities and to carry out their duties without being hindered by others.'

Unfortunately, there are occasions where a minority of students can prevent others from being able to access their education. We know that young people make mistakes, but it is also important that they learn why the mistakes they have made are not acceptable. To ensure that students understand this is unacceptable and to help facilitate positive restorative conversations when students make mistakes, we are introducing a centralised detention system to create 'Reflection' time for students. If a student does not meet our high expectations for behaviour, then they will be set one of three after school Reflections. In the first instance, and on most occasions, poor behaviour will result in a next day 15-minute Reflection. During this time, the teacher who set the Reflection will aim to attend and speak to the student so that they can understand how the choice they made impacted the learning of others. For some more serious infringements a next day 30 minute or 60-minute Reflection may be set. In the instance a 60-minute Reflection is set, parents can expect a phone call from a member of staff to notify you. Again, restorative conversations will take place with a member of staff.

Students may be escorted to these Reflections by their Session 5 teacher; however, it is the responsibility of the student to attend the session. Failing to attend a Reflection will result in an escalation of consequence. We firmly believe that most students at Walton High will not find themselves in a position where they are required to attend a Reflection.

As always, we want to thank you for your continued support of the school and the steps we are taking to try and improve and maintain the quality of education students receive at Walton High. These steps are part of a wider review of the school's behaviour policy which is being undertaken this year and we hope to be in touch later this year with some additional positive changes.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if my child does not attend a Reflection time?

If a student fails to attend a Reflection time, an additional period of Reflection will be set for the following day. This Reflection will be for a longer period than the initial one set. Additional periods of Reflection will not exceed 60 minutes in length and parents will be notified when a 60-minute Reflection has been set.

What if my child is unable to attend a Reflection time due to a prior commitment or appointment?

If a student is unable to attend a Reflection time the school should be notified by their parents with the reason why. Students who are unable to attend their scheduled Reflection for legitimate reasons will have an alternative provided.

How will I know that my child has been set a Reflection time?

Students will be notified of their Reflection time the day before it is set to be completed. Staff will verbally tell students when they have been given a Reflection time and a sticker will be given to student to bring home.

When might my child be set a Reflection time?

Any student who fails to be ready to learn, respectful within the school community or safe may be set a period of Reflection. During this time, they will be able to consider the choices they made and how they can make better choices in the future. Staff will be on hand to facilitate this Reflection.

What happens if my child is given more than one Reflection time in a day?

Students who are set more than one Reflection in a day, may find their Reflection session extended from 15 minutes to 30 minutes. This is to facilitate restorative conversations to happen between staff and students.

Kind regards



Mr S Coates
Vice Principal