



The Cornerstone Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

18th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to you all and a warm welcome back.

I am delighted with the response to our attendance drive which is already having impact. As the data shows this will, in turn, improve grades and therefore broaden career opportunities for students in the future. We are putting aside a reasonable portion of our budget to reward good and improving attendance as we know long term that this will give greater reward in the workplace.

Keep it up TCA attendance heroes!

Please refer to the following NHS guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that, as a school, we have a fantastic team of Learning Directors and Assistants, Attendance Officers, SEN staff and administrative staff.

Recently the level of demand for immediate access to school staff, has become increasingly challenging. This is due to higher call and email volumes and some parents demanding disproportionate time on matters which are non-negotiable. This hinders our ability to address legitimate concerns promptly and to increase the support for students with safeguarding or mental health concerns.

If you need to contact the school or discuss issues with staff, please bear in mind that staff are very busy during the day. If you would like to meet with a member of staff, please ring ahead to book an appointment, to avoid disappointment.

Staff will always try to respond to requests within 24hours, however I urge parents not to request changes to sanctions or to question the school rules. The Cornerstone Academy prides itself on fantastic outcomes, in a calm and purposeful environment that develops and nurtures students.

Please support your child in making excellent progress by prioritising homework and good attendance. Study Zones are now set with plenty of advanced warning, and we would like all parents to engage with this intervention, so please refrain from asking for changes unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Cornerstone Academy has a policy of no mobile phones out during the school day. This has improved social times as more students are now enjoying a healthy active break and developing positive social skills. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please do so via the reception phone line. Please refrain from calling your child on their phone.

Principal: Mr C Phillips BSc (Hons)

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Equally students can ask to use a school phone if they need to contact home e.g. for forgotten items. If a student is seen with a phone out, they will be required to hand the phone in for the rest of the day.

We have a dedicated team of staff at The Cornerstone Academy, and we are always 'expecting the best' of our students. We do have unapologetically high standards, but we always manage this in a sympathetic and nurturing way. Working together in partnership to manage this we can achieve great things.

Thank you, as always, for your support and I hope you and your families have a great spring term.

Yours sincerely



Mr C Phillips
Principal

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