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TOOT HILL
SCHOOL

Wednesday 28th June 2023

Raising Standards Together

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your continued support this academic year as we approach the end of term. It has been a highly positive and productive year and we want every student starting the summer feeling successful, with a real sense of belonging in a calm and purposeful environment.

We intend for Toot Hill School to provide a transformational experience for all. We believe every student and member of staff should be able to achieve more than they ever dreamt possible at our school. The foundation of a transformational school is exceptional behaviour. Every student and member of staff at Toot Hill is entitled to work in a disruption free environment where respect, manners and kindness are the overwhelming social norm.

Year 11 and 13 students have just left the school following a very positive exam period. This enables us to focus on uplifting the standards of behaviour within our school over the last few remaining weeks of term, to ensure our students hit the ground running in September. We have the highest of standards for all students because we believe every student can achieve great things. To lower expectations for a child is not fair on them or the entire student body.

The top priority at Toot Hill is always to praise and reward our students for the amazing things they do every day. The vast majority of our students succeed at school, on every level, every single day. By narrating the positive and working in harmony as a team, we intend for our rules to become invisible. However, exceptional schools still require clear expectations and systems to support exceptional behaviour. I detail below two of our behavioural areas of foci. I share the details so you are clear how to support your child to succeed at Toot Hill, as well as understand the reasons for any changes. We believe we work better as a team when everyone understands 'the why' behind our rules and systems.

Uniform

We value our uniform highly at Toot Hill School. School uniform plays a key role in promoting pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging within the student body. Furthermore, it supports student wellbeing by enabling them not to worry about peer pressure associated with wearing non-school uniform. By wearing our uniform with pride, a focussed working ethos is fostered that not only supports students at school but provides them with valuable skills for the rest of their working lives.

Ties

School ties must be worn to school every day and should be worn travelling to and from school too. We will contact you if extreme hot weather means that students do not need to wear the school tie.

School Shoes

Shoes should be plain black lace-up or slip-on formal shoes with low heels (no more than 2 inches in height). Please note that boots, trainers, fabric/pump style shoes are not permitted.

Skirts

All new skirts must be pleated.

Students may wear a 'legacy' skirt, but it must still conform to the following standards:

- Skirts must be black and of a formal cut
- Pencil style/tight fitting/stretch material skirts are not permitted
- Skirts should be worn at the waist and with appropriate regard to a formal appearance.
- Hems should be no more than 5cm above the knee
- Fashion belts are not allowed.

Please note that students not wearing the above items conforming to our standards by **Monday 3rd July** will risk spending time in the Reset Room as a sanction if they do not correct their uniforms when warned. If a student arrives at school wearing incorrect shoes, no tie, or an incorrect skirt, we will be providing support by lending shoes, ties and pleated skirts or trousers, as much as we possibly can. If you need support with providing the correct uniform for your child, please contact the school through your child's tutor.

Consequence System Escalation

The vast majority of our students have never received a C2 sanction this year and so have never spent time in the Reset Room (RR). We aim for all students to never receive a C2. We, including our student body, feel that the C2 sanction should serve as a stronger deterrent to misbehaviour. Consequently, we plan to update our C2 escalation for September 2023. I will be sharing details of the changes, as part our honest and open culture, at the start of next academic year. The school has chosen not to introduce this system change this term, as mentioned in the recent online information evenings, to ensure students fully understand the system before it is implemented.

I thank you for your continued support and would gratefully appreciate you discussing the above with your child. I will be sharing these same details with Year 7 to Year 10 students in assemblies later this week, and I assure you that the message will be a resoundingly positive one to ensure our students feel supported to achieve great things at our school.

Yours sincerely,



Dr C Eardley
Head Teacher