

Ladywood, Birmingham, B15 2EF

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Headteacher: Rebecca Bakewell

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Tuesday 8th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

We just wanted to keep you updated on the progress of the fresh start we implemented with students over the last week.

I am sure some of you have been informed by your children as to their first initial thoughts of our reset of behaviours. For the vast majority, the model we are implementing and high expectations, is being noticed as a fresh orderly start to the school day and has meant the start of lessons, periods of break and lunch time as well as changeover between lessons have all become more relaxed and quieter.

You will be pleased to hear this has also had a positive knock-on effect to how lessons are conducted with less low level disruptive incidents, as well as within free periods between lessons.

For a small minority though it has, we are sad to say, as mentioned in the first letter, been interpreted as something we are doing to them rather than them seeing this as a re-focus for them on their own approach to the normal expectations of school life and the expectations of society.

We understand it will be harder for some than others but like in all learning we are here to help them work through the emotional response so that over time they develop better constructive responses to emotional triggers.

We are listening to their frustration when they are confronted with the consequences of their actions but as I am sure you would agree this is a much safe place to learn about i.e. being on time, than if they have to catch a train or be at an interview when the consequences of being late can be more costly.

As always, this is a time for us as educators to look at our approach to those we seek to serve, support and educate so the messages, learning and coaching we wish to deliver continues to be delivered with clarity and understanding, and it is with this end in mind we will continue to develop our staff in techniques which helps us learn about for example, significant stages of cognitive and emotional brain development through their time at our school, appreciating the five emotional stages of adolescence which teenagers go through in various degrees, how the hard wired brain reacts to negative situations. The aim being, as the alternative adults in their lives, only contribute in a positive way to your child's development. We appreciate there are things we continue to learn as professionals and please be assured we are appraising our approach at all times to check we are living up to the high standards we set ourselves.

We want to thank you for your patience and understanding as we go through this short sharp period of re alignment, many families will be receiving letters by the end of this week detailing our thanks for the approach seen by their child last week. I am pleased to share that last week, 67% of our students received 100% positive recognition in Class Charts, with no recorded negative behaviours. I will continue to update you in the coming weeks regarding our progress. Please discuss this with your child. If you would like us to reissue you with details for Class Charts, so you can monitor your child's behaviour and attendance, please get in touch with us, so we can support this.

Over the next few weeks we will be delivering short pod casts on some of the items already mentioned along with lots of other topics, which, if you as parents would also like to learn from, please feel free to let us know and we will be happy to include where we can items to help us all understand the lives of generation Z and generation Alpha.





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As always, we will continue to keep you updated on all that is going on here are your City Academy.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Bakewell Headteacher