

**Orchard Mead Academy**

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Date: 20 January 2022

**Executive Principal:** Mr M Oldman

Dear Parent/Carer

As we begin the spring term here at Orchard Mead Academy, the impact of our FAST strategies and review of our behaviour policy can be felt within the corridors and classrooms, and our students have made me proud in the way they have adapted to the expectations and returned to school ready to learn.

Our next steps, in ensuring a calm, orderly and safe environment for all students to thrive in, are being rolled out over the next few weeks and are outlined below:

### **Arriving/Departing School**

Our site shares a busy car park with our neighbour Nether Hall school, and the arrival of students on site is an extremely busy period. We will be increasing the number of staff on duty, to support the start of the day, and will be encouraging pupils to:

- Arrive promptly
- Use the paths provided
- Dismount bicycles on school grounds
- Not cut across the car park

These are expectations aimed at improving the safety of students and staff on site and creating a calmer start to the day.

### **Moving around school/Corridor Conduct**

The one-way system that we have been operating for some time, will no longer be in place, and instead, we are asking for simple rules to be followed by students when moving around the site, and between lessons:

- Walk don't run
- Walk in pairs
- Walk to the left

Our aim is to ensure our students recognise their part in the school community and how their behaviour in the community can improve it for all.

### **Break/Communal Dining**

We have increased the seating options available for our students, to allow our students to sit and eat at break/lunch times. We are operating separate service points for each year group to avoid unnecessary queues, and the lunch menu itself will be updated with new items as we progress through the year.

We will be asking students who are not eating to move from the dining area, to make these spaces calm and suitable for communal dining.

### **Activities at Break/Lunch**

As part of our new Rewards programme, there will be various activities available to students according to the Honour points they have accrued.

These include a common room space for KS4 students, table tennis, cricket, football and different activities throughout the year.

The introduction of these activities is to encourage students to engage with the activity and each other, and to take pride in their own accomplishments for which they are being rewarded.

For parents and families who would like to hear more about our revised expectations going forward, and why we believe these are important next steps for our school community, we will be hosting a Parent Focus Meeting on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 4 pm, here at school. You can book a place here:

[Parent Forum- Corridor Conduct & Expectations](#)

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely



Mark Oldman  
Executive Principal