



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

Northern Lights Learning Trust



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Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families enjoyed a restful festive break. It was wonderful to welcome pupils back to school in 2024.

The New Year has brought with it a number of exciting developments at Venerable Bede CE Academy. On Monday 8th January, Mr Exley and I held individual year group assemblies to discuss the vision by which we aim to support all members of our community to enable them to **"Soar to the Heights Together"**. The principles of this vision are based upon the school's motto and philosophy of working together to allow all members of our community to thrive.

Our expectations, behaviour systems and routines are intended to ensure our classrooms and corridors are calm, purposeful and conducive to learning. The majority of our pupils behave this way on a daily basis. There have been a number of changes to the academy's pastoral system which we have already shared with our pupils. Having now tested and run the system in school for almost three weeks, we wanted to share with you the changes which have been implemented. We are confident you will agree that these systems allow for a simple and consistent approach that all members of our community can work with to help all our pupils "Soar to the Heights". By sharing these messages with parents and carers, we hope to work towards a common language and philosophy that can be used by all to support our young people in achieving the very best they can.

ClassCharts

Further to the letter we sent to you in December, we have now made changes to the ClassCharts platform and the way in which ClassCharts is used in school. **All teachers enter behaviour points "live" into ClassCharts.** This enables the pastoral team and senior leaders to track what is happening across school, on a minute by minute basis, and to intervene to support pupils in making wise choices. The majority of positive achievement points will also be entered "live" so that we can actively visit lessons throughout the day to congratulate pupils who are "getting it right". However, some positive points will be entered whilst teachers are marking, and so may appear outside of the school day.

We have also simplified the points scores so that all achievement and behaviour points carry a value of + 1 or - 1. Pupils can gain achievement points for classroom achievement, learning beyond the classroom and out of class conduct, as well as points at the beginning of the day for being fully prepared during tutor time.



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Behaviour points are based on the classroom management system that we shared with pupils and parents in September. At each stage of the system, pupils are given reminders to help them "get it right". All staff will use a common language when applying the system. Our classroom management system posters can be found [HERE](#). We hope that you find these informative and useful.

Behaviour points are applied from stage C2 (Formal warning) to C4 (On-Call). This gives pupils three reminders to "get it right" before any On-Call support is requested. Parents and Carers will be able to see what stage of the classroom management system their child is on by the "C codes" next to the red behaviour point. This is "live", via the ClassCharts app, for parents and carers too.

Behaviour points are monitored daily by Heads of Year and the Senior Leadership Team. Sanctions will be applied based on the number of points accrued the previous day.

Calm Corridor Conduct

An excellent attitude to learning begins outside of the classroom, around our community, in the playground and on our corridors.

Our pupils and staff worked together before the Christmas break to produce a vision for the climate we would like to see in and around our school. We were impressed by the maturity and clarity of vision presented by our pupils. A copy of our "Calm Corridor Conduct" expectations can be found [HERE](#). These were also shared with all pupils and staff in our assemblies on Monday 8th January. These expectations form the basis of our behaviour reminders for out of class conduct on ClassCharts.

Rewards

We are also very keen to enhance our rewards system in school. We have already begun gathering pupil and staff views and will be working with pupils and staff over the coming weeks to explore how we can build on our existing system. We would also very much appreciate your views and will be sending a survey to all parents/carers to gather thoughts and ideas in the coming weeks.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this letter and thank you in advance for your support. We are determined to do the very best for all pupils at Venerable Bede CE Academy. Please be assured that our pupils will always be at the heart of the decisions we make. We look forward to working with you and watching the young people of Venerable Bede CE Academy grow in confidence, knowledge and spirituality during their time here.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs T Burgess
Head of School



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