



Thursday 10th February 2022

RE: Student Engagement

Dear Parent/Carer

As we head towards the end of a positive first half term of 2022, we are writing to you to inform you of some slight changes to our behaviour systems that we would like to explain to you.

As always, our focus is ensuring that students are maximising their learning time which will increase the progress of your child(ren) make and these changes outlined below support this. This is central to everything we do in school and to support, our behaviour and rewards systems in school play a pivotal role.

We know the importance of respect both in and outside our school community and it is important that our students display this school value at all times, including to and from school. Therefore, we are reinforcing this value to continue provide our school community with a positive learning environment and would like to remind you of our school expectations and some slight changes aimed at ensuring that.

Uniform

Students are required to wear full Harrogate High School uniform at all times, when they enter the school. This includes a black HHS blazer, a HHS school tie worn to the top button, a plain white collared shirt, black school skirt or school trousers with black school shoes. It is important to note that trainers (including Nike Air Force One and Adidas Stan Smith trainers) are NOT allowed.

Non HHS jumpers (including HHS PE hoodies when not in practical PE) are not allowed in school when on the corridors or in lessons, students who refuse to remove them, will be issued with a 20 minute after school detention the following day.

School bell

With restrictions now easing within schools, we have made a decision to bring the school bell back into operation to signal lesson change overs. It was removed to reduce the amount of students moving around the site at the same time due to Covid restrictions, however the importance of every minute in school is more crucial than ever. Students will be given 3 minutes to move between lessons and enter the classroom for their next lesson. Students arriving after the second warning bell (3 mins after first bell) will receive a late to lesson caution.





Lesson Removals

Students who choose to not follow our behaviour system and are removed from the lesson, will be placed in the Matrix (another classroom within an area or department) and receive a 20 minute after school detention. If a student refuses to go into the Matrix or refuses to enter their lesson will be issued with an hour after school detention the following day and will be placed in the Reflection Room for the remainder of the school day.

Reflection Room

This is an area of school where students are placed to reflect on their behaviour choices where students are expected to sit in silence and work independently. Students will remain in the Reflection Room for break and lunch. Students are able to eat food during these times and food is available to be brought down from the canteen to the Reflection Room. Students placed in the Reflection Room will be required to hand over their phone on entry.

After school detentions

- Students who receive a 'lesson removal' will be placed in a 20-minute after school detention (running 2:30pm – 2:50pm in school).
- Students who refuse to go to the matrix or fail the matrix will be issued with a 60 minute after school detention (running 2:30pm – 3:30pm)

During this time, students will be given the opportunity to catch up on work missed when they were removed from their lesson due to the negative behaviour displayed.

We understand that some of our students have various commitments after school including childcare; however, only in exceptional circumstances will a student's detention be moved to another date. The detentions will take place the next school day after the lesson removal to allow for any alternative arrangements to be made so that the detention can take place.

You will be notified of any detentions your child receives via the ClassCharts app/website (www.classcharts.com) and via email. If you have lost/forgotten your log in details – please contact the school office team (admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk) who will be able to provide you with details.

Mobile Phones/Headphones/Earphones

We completely understand the need for students to have a mobile phone with them for communication before and after school, however our stance is simple: mobile phones and headphones/earphones are not allowed to be used within school hours. A student must have their phone turned off/headphones/earphones away in their blazer or bag and out of sight.





If a student's phone/headphones/earphones are seen or heard during school hours, the student will be asked to hand over the item and it will be taken to Reception to be placed in secure storage until the end of the day, when the item will be returned (COVID-secure). There will be no further sanction for this choice.

If a student refuses to hand over the item to the member of staff requesting it, this will automatically result in a 20-minute after-school detention the following day. An SSO will be called and will request the item a second time. If the item is handed over to the SSO, the student will be able to continue with their day, but the after-school detention will remain in place, as they refused to hand over the item to the member of staff who initially requested it, which does not demonstrate respect: one of our school values.

If a student refuses to hand over the item to the SSO, they will be placed in our Reflection Room for the remainder of the day including social times (food will still be available to them) and the after-school detention remains in place.

Kingsley Drive Entrance

The gate at the rear of school, by Kingsley Drive will open from 8:10am each morning.

We know that young people are far more successful when school and home work together in partnership, so we would greatly appreciate your support with reinforcing our expectations around mobile phones and headphones/earphones. If you feel your child would be too tempted to use these in school time, you may wish to keep them at home.

If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the points above, please contact Mr Dixon via the school office on admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Gill
Head of Academy

Mr M Dixon
Assistant Headteacher (Student Engagement)

