



11 February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

In line with the introduction of the positive behaviour system, it has been necessary to make some changes to our detention system, which we have been trialling since September 2018. This is not only to encourage good behaviour in school, which in turn creates a positive learning environment for the students at The Beaconsfield School, but is also important in delivering a clear message to our students that inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated and will be sanctioned accordingly.

The core values of READY, RESPECT and RESPONSIBLE haven't changed, nor has the focus on behaviour and making the 'right choice'. We all make mistakes from time to time but it is how we respond in these situations which will dictate the outcome. Please follow the link below to a flow diagram which goes through the detention system. It is important to note that the vast majority of our students never receive a detention and indeed they are completely avoidable. Staff will engage with students in conversations outside the lesson, detain after class or at break time to try and re-establish expectations and reset good behaviour. Should this not be effective then a lunchtime detention will be issued for that department area. Students will have a 5 minute window in which to arrive and should they not attend will be escalated to an after school detention.

[www.beaconsfield.school](http://www.beaconsfield.school)

There will be no exemptions from the after school detention system. If your child has a medical appointment, parents/carers must inform the school and rearrange the detentions. **It will not be possible for a student to rearrange it themselves.** If your child is absent on the day of a scheduled detention, it will be rearranged to the next detention session automatically and not escalated.

If a student chooses not to attend an SLT detention held on a Friday evening for 90 minutes, they will be kept out of lessons on Monday and work in isolation during normal school hours and be expected to complete an extra hour after school. You would of course be informed about this decision.

In line with the Department for Education, schools have no legal obligation to inform parents/carers that their child is being kept back after school for a detention. Nor do schools need the consent of a parent/carer to issue and detain a student for an after-school detention. However, we want to work with parents/carers and have therefore decided to continue to notify parents that their child has been entered for a detention by sending a brief text message. We know you need to understand what happened in order to address concerns and therefore the details are sent via MILK which will also act a reminder for your son/daughter.



We understand that after school detentions can sometimes be an inconvenience to parents/carers, however they are an integral part of the behaviour system and as such we urge parents/carers to encourage their children to adhere to the rules and expectations of The Beaconsfield School, so that ultimately they are not issued with a detention. It should not be forgotten that a detention is given after warnings have been issued and chances to correct behaviour, if students are exhibiting positive behaviours they will always receive praise as per the behaviour policy.

[www.beaconsfield.school](http://www.beaconsfield.school)

For further information on the guidance surrounding detentions, please visit the links below for the Department of Education:

[www.gov.uk/school-discipline-exclusions/discipline](http://www.gov.uk/school-discipline-exclusions/discipline)

[www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/488034/Behaviour\\_and Discipline in Schools - A guide for headteachers and School Staff.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/488034/Behaviour_and_Discipline_in_Schools_-_A_guide_for_headteachers_and_School_Staff.pdf)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Should you require further information regarding the use of after school detentions as a sanction, please don't hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Gattward

Deputy Head