

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the final two weeks of our first half term, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of some of the fantastic work students at Outwood Academy Portland have been doing and also to remind you of some of the important parts of the Academy's Positive Discipline for Learning Policy.

Last year's Year 11 cohort produced some outstanding results which we were overjoyed to celebrate with them on results day; we wish them all the best with pastures new. We are also extremely proud of how our wonderful Year 7s have started their secondary education journey. It is a big step from primary school, and they have fully engaged with our ACE (Academy Conduct and Expectations) programme and adapted to the change really well. Staff have issued over 17,000 praise points since September and it is wonderful to see so many of our students fully aligned with our values; pride, kindness and resilience.

We were thrilled to see so many students attend our 100% attendance celebration event. It is so important that students attend every single day, on time, to ensure they don't miss out on their education, and arrive by 8.15am ready to learn. I often inform students that I never want any of them to miss out on a second of learning - I truly believe that our students at Portland are exceptional and will go on to have a lasting positive impact on their lives, the community and even the world! It is important that students are resilient, especially as the cold weather, dark mornings and evenings are upon us. Please continue to encourage and congratulate them for coming to school every day. Education really is so important.

Last week we welcomed 'Prison, Me? No Way!' into the Academy for our Year 9 students, where they learnt about the causes, consequences, penalties and impact of crime. Our Year 11 students completed their first geography field trip and Year 7 students enjoyed a performance from StreetWise, where they learnt about the importance of road safety.

I would like to take this time to remind you about the importance of safety in the academy too. We have a zero-tolerance policy towards disruption to learning; every child has the right to learn in a calm and purposeful environment. Likewise, we will never tolerate any form of physical altercation. All students are informed that they should never put their hands on another student and if they become aware of any potential unkind behaviour or threats of physical violence they should inform a member of staff immediately; never taking matters into their own hands. Any form of physical violence towards another student, during the academy day or after school, could result in the most severe of consequences. I ask that you read the [Positive Discipline for Learning Policy](#).

Lastly, I would like to thank you for your continued support to ensure your child succeeds in all areas of their education. We are grateful that you have entrusted your child's education to us and we are so excited to see them achieve their potential.

Kind regards,



Miss S Gascoyne  
Vice Principal