



12th April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

SUBJECT: Y7 Learning Environment

We have been actively listening to a range of parents during parental surveys and meetings. We have also been in conversation with a range of pupils about what we can do to ensure we enable all pupils to do the best they can during lesson time, in particular after the long period of lockdown and online learning.

One common theme that has recurred is a desire for return to a quieter learning environment. Whilst group work and collaboration is a highly effective form of learning, there is a need sometimes to offer a more reflective learning environment.

Ofsted have rated the behaviour at Risedale as good, however pupils in Year 7 are asking strongly for a quieter learning environment. In response to this, we will be adopting a simple approach with year 7 for an initial two-week period, starting after Easter.

Simple Respectful Approach

- a) Teachers will continue to offer engaging and interesting lessons and continue to interact positively with all pupils
- b) These lessons, including registration time will be conducted in absolute silence
- c) Pupils will line up in silence prior to a lesson starting and move between lessons silently
- d) Pupils will obviously be allowed to ask questions of teachers, however this will be done with a simple hands-up
- e) There will also be opportunities to answer questions. Should a pupil wish to answer a question, then they will calmly put their hand up and wait for the teacher to say their name

To ensure all pupils benefit from this strategy, we will be running a very simple 3-step sanction system. All staff will apply this system consistently and fairly.

Clear, Consistent Sanctions

RS1: Staff will issue an immediate CLEAR warning, upon any incident of inappropriate, non-silent/off task behaviour. This is the ONLY warning they will get, and allows them to modify their behaviour





Risedale Sports & Community College

Learning and Achieving Together

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RS2: Staff will issue an automatic after school detention for the same day for 30 minutes in the hall, should there be any further incidents. Pupils will stay in class so that their own learning can continue.

RS3: Staff will issue an immediate isolation for exactly 24 hours, should inappropriate behaviour continue. We will provide pupils with a quiet, staffed room, so that they can continue with their learning during this period.

The expectation is that, due to the clear warning in the first instance, no pupil will escalate beyond RS1. Ultimately, we are giving all pupils the opportunity to maintain their learning in a safe, quiet classroom.

I would appreciate your support in this matter, ultimately all pupils will benefit from this approach. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or concerns about this or indeed any matter about your child's education here at Risedale.

Kind regards

Mr J Yates

Vice Principal

