
WALTON PRIORY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Beacon Rise, Walton, Stone, Staffordshire. ST15 0AL

Tel: 01785 550 040

Email: office@waltonpriory.staffs.sch.uk

Web address: <http://www.waltonpriory.staffs.sch.uk>



Beacon for Life

Dear Parent/Carer,

Despite the many positives and successes of the school recently, it is with regret that I need to write to you with some less joyous messages. As you will know, the values we attempt to instil in our pupils are:

-) Work hard
-) Look after the environment
-) Respect each other

The vast majority of parents support us by modelling and embodying these values too. However, a small but vociferous minority of parents are undermining them.

Abuse of staff

All staff at Walton Priory Middle School are employed to provide a service to pupils within its catchment area. There have been recent incidents where parents/guardians have felt it acceptable to abuse staff and threaten and intimidate them, both in person and by telephone. On each occasion parents have believed what their children have told them without reasonably seeking the full story from an adult at school. This aggression has resulted in staff being reduced to tears and others giving up extra curricular activities for fear of further criticism. Please note that as a consequence of this sorry behaviour by a very small minority of parents, no parent will be seen either without prior appointments or by lone members of staff. Meetings either in person or on the phone will be terminated if staff are sworn at or threatened and parents will be advised to communicate with the school in writing.

Homework Club

Homework Club is a free offer by the school to allow children to complete homework and gain additional help whilst using the library computers and resources. It is **not** after school childcare where children can behave as they wish. Recently several issues have occurred making it difficult for school to manage the club. These include:

1. Children claiming they have no homework.
2. Children refusing to do homework.
3. Children behaving to the detriment of others trying to complete homework.

In relation to points 1 and 2 the school reserves the right to give children work to complete in order to ensure they are fully occupied and continue to learn. In relation to point 3 parents will be contacted if the child's behaviour is unsatisfactory and the privilege of attending the Homework Club could be withdrawn.

Dangerous parking and use of vehicles

It has been witnessed by staff and residents that some parents and carers are parking in a dangerous manner around the school and putting children and residents at risk. The inconsiderate/dangerous parking and manoeuvring of vehicles at the top gate has now become such an issue the matter has been raised by residents with the police and local council. We have a large site that can be accessed by 2 different gates and therefore I would request that parents/guardians utilise the exit at the bottom gate on Tilling Drive to collect children. There are several car parks and safe footpaths for children to walk along to parents/guardians parked in a suitable space.

Entrance to the school site

Following a recent spate of near misses on the school site where visually impaired or disabled children have been put at risk by those driving down to drop off children at the front entrance we are going to ask parents to stop entering the site by vehicle. The only exceptions to this will be for those with children with a disability who have been given permission. Parking is available on Tilling Drive.

I'm sure there will be many parents who do not recognise the behaviour described in this letter and who conduct themselves in a reasonable and polite manner and to you I am very grateful.



Mrs Lindsay Taylor-Potts
Headteacher



Mrs Amanda Brooke
Chair of Governors